
AN
ESSAY
ON THE
TRADE
AND
IMPROVEMENT
OF
IRELAND.

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ESSAY
ON THE
TRADE
AND
IMPROVEMENT
OF
IRELAND.

By *ARTHUR DOBBS*, Esq;



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ESSAYS

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IRELAND.

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AN
ESSAY
UPON THE
TRADE
OF
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TRADE and Commerce unites in Interest and Affection the most distant Nations. As the Soul, animating the natural Body, makes all the Members of it useful to each other, in Subservience to its Maintenance and more comfortable Subsistence: so Trade, in the Body Politick, makes the several Parts of it contribute to the well-being of the whole, and also to the more comfortable and agreeable Living of every Member of the munity. Every Nation, every Climate from the Equinox almost to the very Poles, may partake of the Produce of all the rest, by means of a friendly Intercourse and mutual Exchange of what each has to spare.

spare. Thus every one may enjoy more or less of the Productions of different Countries, according to the Application and Industry he uses to obtain them.

WHATEVER ill and mistaken Use may be made of it by many in the World, it seems to be the Desire of all Men, to live in Affluence and Prosperity, and to have it in their Power to do Acts of Kindness, Goodness and Mercy: Nor is it prohibited by any Precept of true Religion either natural or reveal'd. A Desire to gratify our several Appetites and Inclinations, when we may do it without Harm to our selves or others, to enjoy our Friends with Pleasure in this Life, and to leave those of our Children and Friends, who survive us, in a Capacity of doing the same after us, is inherent in our Natures, and perfectly agreeable to the Ends we were made for by our good and wise Creator.

FROM the Pleasure we take in our Neighbour's Prosperity, when we are not blinded by Prejudice or mistaken Views of Interest; we are led to relieve them from the Inconveniencies and Apprehensions of Want, and to desire the Increase of their Happiness. This ought to extend to all Mankind: But more immediately, by Reason of the Divisions, Animosities and Distractions which are now in the World, to such as are more closely link'd to us for our mutual Advantage; to those who unite with us and assist us in the support of our Interest, in the Defence of our Lives and Properties, by forming a Society under an establish'd Government and Laws.

IT is then every Man's Duty, more immediately to promote the Happiness of the Nation wherein he lives, and by such Means as are honest and lawful to encrease its Power and Wealth, that it may be the better able to defend its People from Violence, to redress Injuries, to punish Crimes, to protect the Oppressed, and relieve such as are in Want and Distress.

treffs. This cannot be done without Industry, and the Produce of such Industry will be but poor and mean, and its Usefulness of very narrow Extent, if it be not improved by the well-order'd Assistance of many Heads and Hands in contriving and executing; and if these Fruits of human Labour and Industry be not dispers'd over the World by the Means of Traffick and Commerce. It ought therefore more or less to be the Care of every Man, according to the Station he is placed in, to promote so general a Good to his Country, as the Trade and Commerce of it. A flourishing Trade gives Encouragement to the Industrious; employs the Poor; encreases the Wealth and Power of the Nation; puts it in the Power of every prudent and industrious Man in it, to enjoy more of the innocent Pleasures of Life, than he otherwise would, and in greater Perfection; and enables him to do more Actions of Kindness and Charity both in his own and foreign Nations; and by these Means, greatly promotes the general Happiness of Mankind.

ISLANDS, upon a double Account, are obliged to be careful of their Commerce and Navigation, without Navigation, they are cut off from the rest of the World: And Ships and Sailors to navigate them, cannot be maintained without Trade to employ them. Without a superior Fleet to repel their Enemies, they are also liable to be attack'd by their more powerful Neighbours, and are continually exposed to the Ravages and Depredations of their Fleets.

As this is the Case of *Great-Britain* and *Ireland*, whose Interests are inseparable: It is to be hoped, that whoever endeavours to promote the Trade of any Part of them; or makes any Observations upon it, that may occasion its being more closely and usefully examin'd by others, will be favourably receiv'd by the Publick.

I HAVE seen but little as yet written upon the Trade and Improvements of *Ireland*; by which the Publick may come to know how our Trade stands with *Great-Britain* and the Plantations, as also with the several foreign Countries with which we trade: And thinking it might be of some Advantage to my Country, I have attempted to state our Trade with Particularity and Exactness, and to make some Observations upon it as it now stands; that I might afterwards upon that Foundation propose what occurs to me, as of Advantage to *Ireland*, and that may contribute to restore the Ballance which is now visibly against us.

WITH this View, whilst in the Committee of Trade, I carefully look'd over the Ledgers in the Custom-House, and took Extracts from them for seven or eight Years, of the most material Imports, and all the Exports; in order to form proper Calculations upon them, and to set our Trade in a full and fair Light; that the Publick may not be impos'd upon, but that every Person may use his own Understanding in observing the State of the Kingdom, and contributing to its Welfare and Prosperity.

To give a more general View of our Trade, I shall first lay down some general Abstracts of our Exports and Imports, and shew how the Ballance has stood for several Years past; I will afterwards consider them particularly, according to their most material Articles, and state them separately; as also according to the several Countries we trade to, as they are distinguish'd in the Custom-House Books; and as I proceed make some Observations on each of them.

ABSTRACTS

ABSTRACTS of Exports, Imports, and Ballance
for several Years, each ending at *Christmas*.

Years.	Exports.	Imports.	Ballance.	Contra Ballance.
	<i>l.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>l.</i>
1681	582814	433040	149774	95932
1695	295592	391524		
1696	398237	334963	62274	
1697	525004	423182	101822	
1698	996305	576863	419442	

It is probable that our Exports, from the *Restoration* of King *Charles* the II^d, to 1688, did not exceed 600000 *l.* per *Ann.* which upon the Prohibition then laid upon our exporting Cattle and Sheep alive into *England*, chiefly consisted of Wooll, and the Produce of our Cattle. From that Time to the Year 1695, three Years after the Reduction of *Ireland*, we could have little or no Trade, until the Country began to be at Peace, and our Stock of Cattle and Sheep, which had been neglected and destroy'd in those Confusions, were again increased upon the waste Lands. Hence it was that our Imports that Year, exceeded our Exports 95932 *l.* which seems to have been a considerable Drain upon us, and much increas'd by our Imports in the Time of the Reduction of *Ireland*. But if it be consider'd that the Army employ'd here, in our favour, was paid by *England*, and the *Irish* Army by *France*; it may be easily conceived, that there was a constant Influx of Money without Trade, until the Armies were

were withdrawn, and the Establishment was paid by the Revenue of the Kingdom: It was that alone cou'd pay the Ballance of our Imports and other Draughts upon us in 1695.

It may be observ'd that our Exports increas'd in 1696, 1697, and 1698; but our Imports did not rise in Proportion, which occasion'd the Ballance in our Favour, in 1698, (being greater than ever it was in *Ireland*, except in 1715.) This Annual Increase was occasion'd by our falling into the Woollen Manufacture; the *French Refugees*, who settled with us, at the same time laying the Foundation of the Linnen Manufacture; And it being also the succeeding Year to the Peace of *Reswyck*, *Europe* began to breath after a heavy War, and Trade to revive, which occasioned a brisker Demand for *Irish* Provisions. But upon checking the Export of our Woollen Manufacture to foreign Kingdoms, and by laying on heavy Duties upon its being Exported to *England*, in 1699 and 1700, equivalent to a Prohibition; most of those, who were imbark'd in it, were laid under a Necessity of removing elsewhere; and being piqued at the Difficulties they were laid under, many of the Protestants remov'd into *Germany*, and settled in the Protestant States there, who received them with open Arms. Several Papists at the same time remov'd into the Northern Parts of *Spain*, where they laid the Foundation of a Manufacture highly prejudicial to *England*. Many also of the Protestants who were imbark'd with Papists in the Woollen Manufacture, remov'd into *France*, and settled in *Roan* and other Parts. Notwithstanding *Lewis* the XIVth had repealed the Edict of *Nantz*, and forced abroad the *French* Protestants into different Parts of *Europe*, yet these were kindly received by him, had great Encouragement given to them, and were protected in their Religion. From these Beginnings they have in many Branches so much improv'd

prov'd the Woollen Manufactures of *France*, as not only to supply themselves, but even to vye with the *English* in Foreign Markets; and by their Correspondence, they have laid the Foundation for the running of Wooll thither both from *England* and *Ireland*, highly to the Prejudice of *Britain*; which pernicious Practice is still carry'd on, in spite of all the Care and Precautions made Use of to discountenance and prevent it. Thus a Check is put to the Sale of our Woollen Manufactures abroad, which would have given full Employment to all the industrious Poor both of *Britain*, and *Ireland*, had not our Manufacturers been forced away into *France*, *Spain* and *Germany*, where they are now so improv'd, as in great Measure to supply themselves with many Sorts they formerly had from *England*. The *French* particularly are supplanting *Britain* in many of the Markets abroad; and upon the whole, those Nations may be justly said to have depriv'd *Britain* of Millions, since that Time, instead of the Thousands *Ireland* might possibly have made: which Gain, whatever it had been, must necessarily have center'd in *England* at last. For had they then allow'd us to manufacture our Woolls, and confin'd us to the *English* Markets; it is not to be imagin'd we could have undersold the Manufacturers there, by having Provisions cheaper, considering Carriage, Commission, Freight, &c. since it is observable in our great Towns, where those Manufactures must have been carry'd on, our Provisions for several Years have been dearer than in the Manufacturing Towns and Counties in *England*.

ABSTRACTS continued from 1710 to 1727, ending
Lady-Day.

Years.	Exports.			Imports.			Ballance.			Contra Bal- lance.		
	l.	s.	d.	l.	s.	d.	l.	s.	d.	l.	s.	d.
1710	712497	2	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	554247	12	4	158249	10	2 $\frac{1}{2}$			
1711	878237	4	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	670948	13	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	207288	11	2			
1712	889339	7	$\frac{1}{2}$	774420	12	6 $\frac{1}{4}$	114918	14	6 $\frac{1}{4}$			
1713	890437	5	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	659665		10 $\frac{1}{4}$	230772	4	5			
1714	1422227	7	5	1016122	13	7	406104	13	10			
1715	1529765	14	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	972688	9	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	557077	4	2 $\frac{1}{4}$			
1716	1255083	7	10	875565	19	11 $\frac{1}{4}$	379517	7	10 $\frac{1}{2}$			
1717	1180012	10	4	907160	10	10 $\frac{1}{4}$	272851	19	5 $\frac{1}{4}$			
1718	1115304	6	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	887758	16	6 $\frac{1}{4}$	227545	10	4 $\frac{1}{4}$			
1719	1038381	7	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	891678	5	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	146703	1	7			
1720	859581	5	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	683364	1	6 $\frac{1}{4}$	176217	3	7			
1721	986346	14	2	730558	10	9 $\frac{1}{4}$	255788	3	4 $\frac{1}{4}$			
1722	1074269	12	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	829367	17	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	244901	15				
1723	1090675	13	5 $\frac{1}{4}$	920802	11	6	169873	1	11 $\frac{1}{4}$			
1724	1053782	13	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	819761	13	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	234021	0	8 $\frac{1}{4}$			
1725	1026537	6	4	889832	18	5 $\frac{1}{4}$	136704	7	10 $\frac{1}{4}$			
1726	1017872	15	4 $\frac{1}{4}$	1030059	16	4 $\frac{1}{2}$				12187	1	0 $\frac{1}{4}$
Total.	18020351	14	2	14114004	5	1	3906347	9	1	12187	1	0 $\frac{1}{4}$

Medi-
um for
17
Years.

1060020 13 7 $\frac{7}{8}$ 830235 10 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ 229784 2 9 $\frac{1}{4}$

Total
for the
last 7
Years.

1109066 • 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ 5905747 9 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ 1205318 11 5 $\frac{1}{4}$

Medi-
um for
the last
Years.

1015580 17 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ 843392 9 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ 172188 7 4 $\frac{1}{4}$

By these Abstracts may be observ'd the gradual rise of our Exports from 1710 to 1716; from which Time they gradually fell to 1721; then rose again to 1724; and have since abated to 1727.

Our Imports gradually rose from 1710 to 1713; then abated a little but were very high the Year following, then gradually abated to 1717; when they rose a little, then fell until 1720; thence they increased to 1723, fell in 1724, and have risen considerably since, tho' the Exports abated; and in 1726 they were higher than they ever were before in *Ireland*. The Ballance being the difference between the Exports and Imports, must necessarily attend their uncertain and irregular rising and falling.

THE Causes of these irregular startings and flutterings in our Trade, I take to be these. The Linnen Manufacture has been generally speaking an increasing Export; and tho' some Years it abated a little, upon Account of bad Markets Abroad, or by the failing of our Seed at Home, and bad Seed imported from Abroad; yet generally in the succeeding Years, it increased with double Force: it is owing to that solely, that our Exports have diminish'd so little in bad Seasons, and have been generally much at a stand; tho' from bad Crops, and late Harvests, we have made considerable Demands abroad for Grain, to supply our Markets.

It was the Peace establish'd throughout *Europe* after a long and expensive War, that made the Markets quick and high every where in 1714 and 1715. There seem'd to be a new Force given to the Circulation of Trade, after so long a Stagnation. This occasion'd a great Demand for our Provisions, rais'd our Markets, and made our Exports so large. This rise and demand made us over-slaughter our Cattle, and consequently diminish our Stock; which with the Fall of Markets, by being glutted Abroad, lessen'd our Exports the following Years. At the

same Time the Goods we imported were rais'd abroad: Wine being rais'd in *France* from 20 to 36*l.* per Tun, and other Goods in Proportion: This increas'd the Value of our Imports those Years. The succeeding Disturbances by the Rebellion in *Great-Britain*, the Confusions in *France* upon calling in and new coining their Money, and raising their Coin, the *Mississipi* Bubble in *France*, and *South Sea* in *England*, were plainly the Reasons of the considerable Fall in our Exports to 1722, by the breaking of Merchants, and Fall of Markets every where upon it. Our Exports rose gradually again to 1724; which was occasion'd by two good Harvests, but especially that of 1723. Since that Time by bad Harvests and increasing Luxury, our Exports have diminish'd a little every Year, and our Imports have increas'd to that Degree, as to have a Contra-Ballance in 1726 of 12187:1:04 but I must observe that Part of this Increase was occasion'd by our Merchants having Stock upon Hand of *French* Wines in the Isle of *Man*, which upon suppressing their Clandestine Trade, they were oblig'd to import in greater Quantities than formerly.

Thus stands our general Ballance in the Custom-House Books. But before I give this as a just Estimate of our Ballance upon the Produce of the Kingdom and our Demand for foreign Goods, for I can by no Means allow it to be the exact Ballance or Return of Wealth to the Kingdom; I shall remark how it is enter'd in the Custom-House Ledgers; and here I must do that Justice to the Examinators, Mr. *Foulks* and Mr. *Lill*, to say, they are kept with the greatest Care and Regularity possible. They have made it perfectly easy to any one who looks into them to see how our Trade is carried on, either in general, or with the several Nations with whom we trade; and every Branch may be examin'd with the greatest Ease and Dispatch.

IN striking this Ballance, they have consider'd the Price of our Exports and Imports without any regard to Freight, or the Merchant's Loss or Profit upon them; but have valued our Goods at the exactest Medium they could by their strictest Enquiry find out, for the Year's Export, as they are sold here in our Markets. They likewise endeavour to find out by Merchants and the best Informations they can get from other Hands, what is the *Medium* Value of the different Kinds of foreign Goods, as they are sold in the several Ports and Countries we have them from; and vary the Price according as they find them to rise or fall Abroad: Which is the utmost can be expected. They have also regular Entries of the Number of Ships and Quantity of Tunnage, employ'd in annually carrying on our Trade; Specifying from what Ports in *Ireland*, and how much Tunnage belongs to each Nation: An Abstract of this for two or three Years I give afterwards. But it is impracticable for them to give an Account of the Freight gain'd by each Nation's Ships that Trade here, the Ports they sail'd to, and the Goods they carry'd to each Place: No more than what is already mention'd, can be reasonably expected from them. Tho' this will effectually let us into the Increase and Decrease of our Exports and Imports in the several Commodities sent Abroad, which are enter'd at each Port, and in such as we have from Abroad which pay Duty, and are not imported by Stealth; yet that is all: and we may be pretty well assur'd, that our Imports exceed what are enter'd in their Books; we may even give a tolerable Guess of what Kind of Goods the Returns are exact, and what not, by the Height of the Duty and Conveniency of stealing them in, according to their Bulk and Value. As for Instance, in Bone-Lace, Cambricks, Silks, Calicoes and Hollands, the Value and small Bulk contribute to their being easily imported by Stealth; as also Tobacco and

Brandy, tho' bulky, yet the high Duty, and their not being in danger of being spoil'd by the Carriage, will occasion their being Run in upon us, notwithstanding that Bribes, Seizures, and cheap Sale, generally eat away the whole Profit; and scarce one in an Age is known to have dy'd rich of those who have follow'd so pernicious a Trade.

UPON the whole, we must Ballance Goods Imported by Stealth, with such as are so Exported: For where Prohibitions, Difficulties, or high Duties are laid upon Goods Exported; there are also People who will export by Stealth, that would not import in that Manner; contenting themselves with this *Salvo*, that the Crime is less in this Case than that of Importation, since it seems to be an Advantage to the Kingdom to export as much as possible, which, except in Exporting the *Primums* of Manufactures, will employ more Hands at Home; whereas a too great Consumption of foreign Goods and Manufactures is a certain Prejudice to the Kingdom: in this therefore we can be at no Certainty, but must Ballance the one with the other.

THE next Thing to be consider'd in striking the Ballance, is the Profit or Loss, Merchants have by our Goods Exported; whether they are Exported in foreign, or our own Ships; whether upon Commission or at Risque of our Merchants. As to the first, we are sure of the Imports, but not of the Exports; Losses at Sea are not allow'd for: If either the Exports or Imports which are lost belong to our Merchants, it is a National Loss: If carry'd on by Commission or ship'd by Foreigners, then *Ireland* is not concern'd in the Loss. If they got safe to Port, and meet with a bad Market, our *Irish* Trade will seldom afford sending them to another Port to try to better the Sale, but there they sell either for Profit or Loss as it happens; and then the Merchant makes up his Loss by the Sale of what he imports in Return

turn; and the Consumer at home must pay his Loss: sometimes Correspondents Abroad break; Ships are arrested, seiz'd or confiscated; these are heavy Charges upon Trade, yet we may reasonably hope that the Freight at least is sav'd; otherwise Merchants would deal with ready Money, and send over Bills, as is too often done with our Trade with *France*.

Thus in striking our Ballance as done in the Custom-House, we are sure if we err, it is on the right Side, and in regulating our Trade, by putting Difficulties upon the Consumption of Wasting and Luxurious Imports, and giving proper Encouragement to increase our Exports, and to plant, and manufacture at home, that we may lessen our Imports from abroad, we will find it reasonable not to depend too much upon any farther Profit made upon our Exports, but rather upon our Freight. If we consider this only in proportion to the Tunnage of our own Shipping employ'd, which is at the Medium of 37453 Tuns in 181901, not much exceeding $\frac{1}{3}$ of our Exports, we will not find a great Sum to be added to the Profit as return'd by the Ballance in the Custom-house Books.

I WILL here give an Abstract of the Number of Ships employ'd for some Years to export and import the Goods and Commodities we deal in, with their Tunnage, *viz.*

Years

Years commen- cing <i>Lady</i> - <i>day</i> .	Ships N ^o .	Tuns.	Tunnage of Ships. At a Me- dium.
1714	3081	161115	52 .27
1719	3341	135887	40 .67
1720	3167	187041	59 .09
1721	3334	158414	47 .51
1722	3657	286524	78 .36
1723	4012	173986	43 .36
1724	3829	170273	44 .46
Total—	24421	1273310	
Medium.	3488 .7	181901	52 .14

I must here observe; that in the Year 1721, *Waterford* was not return'd but taking the Tunnage that Year of 7400, as the Medium of the other Years, the Amount is as above. The Ships and Tunnage 1724 is also imperfect: *Dingle*, *Donaghadee*, *Drogheda*, and *Killibeggs* not being return'd. But allowing them at the Returns appearing in other Years, their Number and Tunnage are as above; of which the *English* Tunnage amounts to 96924, *Scotch* 17951, and *Irish* 38513.

 *Note*, These are all Decimal Fractions beyond the Point, those who don't understand them, may safely omit them, they being only $\frac{1}{10}$ $\frac{1}{100}$ or $\frac{1}{1000}$ of an Unite.

The TUNNAGE of different Nations in 1722 and 1723 was as follows:

In 1722.	Tuns.	In 1723.	Tuns.
<i>English</i>	218299		96440
<i>Scotch</i>	18355		19247
<i>Irish</i>	33312		42136
<i>Danish</i>	11201		9292
<i>Dutch</i>	2444		3915
<i>French</i>	2868		2751
<i>Spanish</i>	115		205
Total. —	286594		173986

By these may be seen the Proportion the several Nations around us bear to ours, in the Carriage and Freight of our Goods, and Imports; by which we may observe, a great Part of the Profit of our Trade goes away in Foreign and British Freight; and 'tis a strong Presumption much also by Commission.

I THOUGHT it would not be unacceptable also to annex the Proportion of Ships and Tunnage in the several discharging Ports in *Ireland*: by which Means an Observation may be made, how our Trade at home stands among our selves, and what Proportion our trading Towns severally have in our Exports and Imports, which for the Year 1723 stood thus,

Baltimore

	Ships N ^o .	Tuns.		Ships N ^o .	Tuns.
<i>Baltimore</i>	38	1193	<i>Limerick</i>	71	3443
<i>Belfast</i>	370	9180	<i>Londonderry</i>	58	2281
<i>Colerain</i>	34	796	<i>Ros</i>	27	1591
<i>Cork</i>	690	36576	<i>Sligo</i>	18	880
<i>Dingle</i>	6	288	<i>Strangford</i>	31	1112
<i>Donaghadee</i>	53	876	<i>Waterford</i>	176	7554
<i>Dublin</i>	1834	90758	<i>Wicklow</i>	21	799
<i>Drogheda</i>	185	4715	<i>Wexford</i>	21	640
<i>Dundalk</i>	232	4302	<i>Youghall</i>	51	2153
<i>Gallway</i>	46	2280			
<i>Killibeggs</i>	6	355		474	20453
<i>Kinsale.</i>	44	2214		3538	153533
	3538	153533	Total. —	4012	173986

HAVING thus given a short View of the Shipping and Tunnage employ'd in our Trade; I shall next subdivide our Exports, and range them under their several Heads; viz. the Produce of Cattle and Sheep, of Grain, Fish, Linnen, Rape; others not reduceable to these Heads, as Iron, Wood, &c. and Goods re-exported. Of each of these in their order. First I will give an Abstract of our Produce from our Grazing, making a Distinction betwixt Sheep and other Cattle, for eight Years ending *Lady-Day* 1727, and strike Mediums as I go along.

An Abstract of the Value of the Produce of Cattle and Sheep Exported.

Years.	Produce of Cattle.			Years.	Produce of Sheep		
	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>		<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1719	530830	16	7	1719	109942	8	1
1720	445946	10	3	1720	89401	11	0
1721	485699	13	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	1721	135196	11	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
1722	506337	6	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	1722	162476	3	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
1723	502962	14	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	1723	187284	3	4
1724	524710	11	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	1724	132148	19	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
1725	505769	0	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	1725	95730	13	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
1726	475937	19	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	1726	101942	7	9
Total	3976194	13	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	Total	1014122	12	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
Medium	497024	6	8	Medium	126752	17	1

Medium of Cattle and Sheep 623777 3 9

The Produce of the Exports of Grain and Fish.

Years.	Grain.			Years.	Fish.		
	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>		<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1719	56145	0	11	1719	15169	16	6
1720	44253	2	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	1720	13669	10	9
1721	38208	15	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	1721	12055	10	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
1722	17664	12	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	1722	16246	17	5
1723	42154	3	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	1723	11313	12	10
1724	47410	4	1	1724	15713	9	7
1725	18515	3	9	1725	17544	10	0
1726	27005	2	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	1726	15911	16	6
Total	291356	5	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	Total	117625	3	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Medium	36419	10	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	Medium	14703	2	11

The Produce of the Exports of Linnen and Rape.

Years.	Linnen.			Years.	Rape.		
	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>		<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1719	268021	13	0				
1720	214217	13	6	1720	7383	8	4
1721	259519	8	0	1721	2234	0	0
1722	312964	12	0	1722	621	10	0
1723	281549	13	6	1723	450	0	0
1724	275573	9	10	1724	1464	0	0
1725	323628	16	0	1725	10849	0	0
1726	342295	0	9	1726	2205	13	2
Total	2277170	6	7	Total	25207	11	6
Medium	284721	5	9 $\frac{7}{8}$	Medium	3601	1	7 $\frac{7}{8}$

The Produce of the Exports of Iron, Wood, &c. not reducible to the former Heads.

The Produce of Goods Re-exported.

Years.				Years.			
	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>		<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1719	16073	1	5	1719	42198	10	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
1720	27217	14	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	1720	34762	8	9 $\frac{1}{4}$
1721	17904	6	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	1721	35528	9	4 $\frac{3}{4}$
1722	21381	9	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	1722	36506	19	8 $\frac{1}{2}$
1723	22277	1	8 $\frac{1}{4}$	1723	42684	3	5 $\frac{1}{4}$
1724	24872	9	11	1724	31889	10	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
1725	21659	2	7	1725	32840	9	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
1726	14905	14	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	1726	39669	0	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Total	166291	1	0	Total	296079	12	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Medium	20786	7	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	Medium	37009	19	0 $\frac{1}{2}$

Thus

Thus may be seen the annual Profit arising to the Nation at a Medium of 8 Years of our several Exports, viz. from Cattle and Sheep, which Includes our grazing; from Agriculture, Fish, Linnen Manufacture, other Goods not reduceable to these Heads, as Iron, Wood, &c. and from Goods re-exported.

HERE also follows for the Satisfaction of those who would more nicely observe the Profit upon our grazing Farms, an Account of the most material Articles under that Head, at the Medium of their Quantities and Values, viz.

	N ^o . at a Medium.	l.	s.	d.
Beef, Barrels, - - -	135270	120771	16	4
Butter, Hundreds, - - -	161123	161182	4	5
Hides, { Raw, - - -	78193 $\frac{3}{4}$	44848	6	10
{ Tann'd, - - -	66685 $\frac{5}{7}$	51678	12	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
Tallow, Hundreds.	51274	64254	2	4
Calve Skins. Dozens.	11603 $\frac{1}{4}$	13924	13	6 $\frac{1}{4}$
Barrels of Pork - - -	10322 $\frac{1}{2}$	16000		
Bacon and Lard, - - -		995	10	8
Candles, - - -		6286	19	11
Soap, - - -		600		
Cheese, - - -		3480	9	0
Goats and Kid Skins, - - -		1100	0	0
Horses, - - -		3806	0	0
Rabbit Skins, - - -		4100	0	0
Wooll reduc'd to the Stone of 16l. }	123590	40861	16	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Woollen Yarn at } Ditto.	27240	14269	8	5
Worsted Yarn at } Ditto.	76219	62423	10	7 $\frac{3}{4}$
Sheep and Lamb Skins, - - -		6844	16	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Manufacture from Sheep, viz.				
Frize, Flannel, Glew, }		2353	5	0
Gloves, and Hats, }				

There are some other trifling Articles not worth mentioning, such as Horse and Cows Hair, Ox Bones, Greaves, &c.

HAVING given the clearest View I could of the Produce of our Grass, I shall next give the Proportions of our Produce upon Grass, Agriculture, &c. to the whole, and consequently to each other.

The Medium of our whole Ex-ports for 7 Years as before, be-
ing

The Produce of Cattle is } 489
to the whole as

of Sheep to the } 124
whole as

of Cattle and Sheep } 613
Join'd as

of Grain as 35

of Fish as 14

Of Linnen the last Year's
Produce may be taken at
the Medium, it being a } 337
rising Export, as

Of other Articles as Iron, } 20
Wood, &c. as

Of Goods Re-exported as 36

To 1000

THE Produce of Grain if none had been Imported stands as above. But as more has been Imported of late Years than Exported, it stands for nothing: there having been before *Lady-Day* 1727, at a Medium of six Years, Imported upon 4 Articles, viz. Wheat, Flower, Malt, and Barley, to the Value of 39063*l.* whereas in the Exports here, all Things produced from Grain are included, viz. Beer, Ale, Aquavitæ, Bread, Oatmeal, Hair-Powder, Starch, with the several Kinds of Grain besides.

I MUST

I MUST observe here that as Linnen pays no Duty outwards, the Merchants may impose upon the Officers in their Entry, and put more in their Permits than the Quantity exported, and that for these Reasons, by these Means several Merchants may make use of the same Permit to save Fees, so a Merchant enters as much more than he has to export, as he imagines he may expect from other Merchants to be shipp'd of by that Permit; which if he procures 'tis well, if not, he pays nothing on Account of it; but informs his Correspondent of the Quantity shipped and exported. Another Reason is, that Merchants love to persuade the World they have great Business, so they enter above the Truth when it costs them nothing, and appear to deal in greater Quantities, or at least to have greater Commissions than they actually have.

THIS by Order of the Commissioners of the Revenue, is better regulated than formerly; and some Difficulties put upon them if they make false Entries, by obliging them to take out new Permits, in case it exceeds the Quantity exported. So for the future we may expect more exact Entries; there being less exported in the Year ending *Lady-Day* 1728, than the foregoing Year; it is believ'd to be more owing to the rectifying that Abuse than to any Decline of the Manufacture. Upon the whole we may depend upon being rather within the Value of our Linnens and Yarn Exported than otherwise: Since at a Medium the Cloath is valued at 12 *d.* per Yard, and the Yarn at the same Price per Pound: Which if the Yarn at a Medium be 3 Dozen in the Pound, is but 4 *d.* per Dozen; a low Price, and rather below the common Medium of the Markets.

I SHALL next consider the Nature and Differences of the Profits and Benefits arising to the Kingdom from the several before mention'd Heads of Export, *viz.* Pasture, Agriculture, Fisheries, Manufactures, and

and Re-exports; in which I shall begin with Grazing, the least beneficial of our Exports, tho' it makes up the greatest Article in our present Trade.

IN considering this; I shall first divide the Profit arising from Grazing, into its two chief Articles, *viz.* our Exports upon the Produce of Cattle and Sheep, treating of each separately; and afterwards of all Pasture together.

THE Medium of our whole Exports upon Cattle being 497024*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*, the Produce of black Cattle or Kine, when Horses, Swine, Goats, and Rabbits are deducted, amounts to 471023*l.* 16*s.* whilst the only Goods of their Produce, exported manufactured, are tann'd Hides, value 64254*l.* 2*s.* 4*d.* Candles 6286*l.* 19*s.* 11*d.* and Soap about 600*l.* of which the Profit upon Tanning as computed in the Custom-House Books, being 3*s.* *per* Hide, is 10335*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.* $\frac{1}{4}$ and the Profit upon the other Articles inconsiderable.

SINCE then there are 135270 Barrells of Beef exported; if we suppose the Oxen to weigh 400 *wt.* one with another, one Ox will fill two Barrells, and consequently there are 67635 slaughter'd for Export. As they ought to be five Year old when sold for Export, I suppose every Ox will take 8 Acres of Grass and Hay, blending our rich and poor Lands together, to feed him till he is of Age ready for Slaughter, and his Dam whilst he is a Calf.

THE Number of Acres then employ'd in feeding so many, would amount to 541080. Supposing from each Cow at a Medium 100 Weight of Butter may be made annually, there being 161123 Hundred of Butter at a Medium exported, there will be the same Number of Cows to furnish it, which at an Acre and a Half *per* Cow to maintain them, will amount to 241684 Acres, employ'd that way; so that without considering how many Cows will be requisite to rear the Number of Calves, that must from time to time

time supply this Number of Milch Cows, there will be 782764 Acres employ'd in Grazing, to export the Value of 471023 $l.$ 16 $s.$ 0 $d.$ which will not fully amount to 12 $s.$ 0 $d.$ $\frac{1}{4}$ per Acre Plantation Measure, of 7 Yards to the Rod; there is also 4971 weight of Cheese Exported, which at 200 weight per Cow, will reduce the above Value to 12 $s.$ per Acre. But even this is not neat Profit to the Nation, for Salt and Cask must be deducted. The Value of the Wood, each Cask at one Shilling, the Cooperage, being no loss would amount to 14819 $l.$ 13 $s.$ 0 $d.$ Salt (Half a Bushel Value Sixpence per Cask) 7409 $l.$ 16 $s.$ 6 $d.$ These two Articles being Subtracted from the above Sum, the neat Profit upon Cattle will amount to no more than 448794 $l.$ 6 $s.$ 6 $d.$ which will reduce the Profit per Acre to 11 $s.$ 4 $d.$

If we should compute the Number of Bullocks by the Number of Hides Exported, they would amount to 144879, and the Acres employ'd would be above 1350000: but I suppose we don't make use of Half the Hides at Home of such as we kill to supply our Markets, which makes up the Number of Hides Exported. Also from the Profit allow'd by Tanning, should be taken a Proportion of the Value of Bark imported; the Value of what is imported annually at a Medium, amounting to 16116 $l.$ 10 $s.$ 3 $d.$ which will still more abate the Profit per Acre.

I SHALL next consider the Profit to the Nation arising from Sheep; which at a Medium amounts to 126752 $l.$ 17 $s.$ 1 $d.$ of which the Wooll being 123590 Stone, at 16 Pound to the Stone, amounts to 40861 $l.$ 16 $s.$ 9 $d.$ $\frac{1}{2}$ the Medium Price being about 6 $s.$ 7 $d.$ $\frac{1}{4}$ per Stone. The woollen Yarn 27240 Stone, at Value 14269 $l.$ 8 $s.$ 5 $d.$ is nearly 10 $s.$ 5 $d.$ $\frac{1}{4}$ per Stone; the worsted Yarn 76219 Stone, at Value 62423 $l.$ 10 $s.$ 7 $d.$ $\frac{1}{4}$ is nearly 16 $s.$ 4 $d.$ $\frac{1}{2}$ per Stone; the Value of the Sheep and Lamb-Skins, is computed at a Medium

Medium at 6844*l.* 16*s.* 2*d.* $\frac{2}{3}$; and all the Manufacture made of Sheep, that we are allow'd to export, by Reason of high Duties, *viz.* Frize, Flannen, Gloves, Glew, and Hats, at a Medium, amounts to about 2353*l.* 05*s.*

THE Wool, worsted, and woollen Yarn exported amounting at a Medium to 227049 Stone; if three Sheep at a Medium be allow'd to produce a Stone of Wool, whereas in some Sheep-countries they allow four, there would be 681147 Sheep fed to produce that Quantity of Wooll. If four Sheep at a Medium in such Sheep-walks are allow'd to the Acre, it would take 170286 $\frac{1}{4}$ Acres to maintain them; which producing 117554*l.* 15*s.* 10*d.* $\frac{1}{4}$ is nearly 13*s.* 9*d.* $\frac{1}{2}$ per Acre, annual Profit to the Kingdom. The Value to the Farmer, is so much more as what he sells them for to supply the Market, which may be supposed at four Years old; so that once in four Years he may sell his Stock, from 6*s.* to 12*s.* each, which at 9*s.* the Medium, would come to 2*s.* 3*d.* more per Acre: So the Profit of the Farmer may be computed about 16*s.* per Acre, excepting Accidents by Death, &c. The Lambs by their Wooll fully pay their Grass, and make no Deduction.

SUPPOSING 25805 Hogs to fill 10322 Barrels, the Number of Barrels of Pork exported, about 80 Pound weight each Hog, which at six to the Acre, considering how they are generally fed upon Trash, and Grounds otherwise of no great use, we may suppose 4300 $\frac{1}{2}$ Acres employ'd by them annually, the Profit from them arising, being at a Medium computed at *l.* 16000 : 00 : 00, and they being suppos'd 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ Years old when kill'd, there would then be 10752 $\frac{1}{4}$ Acres to maintain them, till ready to be fatt'd; which would come nearly to 1*l.* 9*s.* 7*d.* $\frac{1}{2}$ per Acre, out of which is to be deduced the Grain us'd in fatting them.

THE Horses sent Abroad, at a Medium, 475 *per An.* at 10 Acres *per* Horse to maintain him and his Dam when he is young, and to feed him till old enough for Sale, would come to 4750 Acres, which at 8*l.* for each Horse when Sold, would produce 16*s.* annual Profit *per* Acre.

THUS the whole neat Produce upon Cattle or Grazing in general, after deducting 23003*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* for the Salt and Casks made use of for the Beef, Butter, and Pork, without subtracting any Thing upon account of Bark used in Tanning; will amount to 600773*l.* 11*s.* 03*d.* and the Acres employ'd in producing it 968552½, without allowing any to Rabbits or Goats, which comes nearly to 12*s.* 5*d.* *per* Acre.

THE next Thing I propos'd to consider, was the Profit arising from Agriculture, and to shew the difference between the Profit to the Publick, of Lands employ'd that way, and that of Grazing or Pasture. Our Exports upon that Branch are shamefully small, and our Imports as large. Our Exports, Rape included, not exceeding at a Medium 40020*l.* 12*s.* 4½*d.* and our Imports upon four Articles, Wheat, Barley, Malt and Flower, as I observed before, were 39063*l.* and That before the Years 1727 and 1728, when our Imports grew considerably higher, upon account of the Scarcity in the *North*. Foreigners well may believe, we are either not thoroughly peopled, our Lands and Climate not fit for Agriculture, or that no Profit can be made by Tillage equivalent to that of Pasture.

To make this more obvious, I shall subdivide the Head of Agriculture, and consider the subdivisions separately. To begin then with the Profit upon an Acre of Wheat, Plantation Measure, which I always follow, it being our Statute Acre. This Acre has 7 Yards to the Rod, as the *English* has 5½, the

the Proportion betwixt them therefore is as 49 to 30, or 8 to 5 nearly: I will first compute it according to our common way of Tillage, and then according to the way propos'd by Mr. *Pearson*, by the *English* Wheel-Plows; and will Estimate the Charge upon it nearly as he has put it in his little Tract of Tillage.

AN Acre of Wheat then yielding 7 Barrels *Bristol* Measure, computed at 12s. *per* Barrel for Exportation, would amount to 4l. 4s. 0d. By fallowing, a Year's Crop being lost, the $\frac{1}{2}$ is the Value of the Acre *per Ann.* amounting only to 2l. 2s. 0d. Now 'tis plain that except Seed and Repairs, all the rest is clear Gain to the Nation; for the Maintenance of so many Hands, and Cattle, is Part of the Benefit and Profit of the Publick. So the Seed and Repairs (not exceeding 20s. for two Years) that is 10s. *per Ann.* being deducted, there will be a national Profit of 1l. 12s. 0d. *per Ann.* but to the Farmer, above his Labour, computed when sown at 1l. 3s. 2d. to which add his Seed, Rent, Tythe, Weeding, Reaping, Threshing and sending to Market at 2l. 3s. 6d. the Gain is but 0l. 17s. 4d. which is 8s. 8d. *per Ann.* over and above all his Rent, Tythe, Labour, &c. If Wheat sold for 15s. *per* Barrel, he would then gain 0l. 17s. 8d. *per Ann.* thus by the worst way of Tillage, when the Markets are at the lowest, including Tythe and Rent at 9s. *per* Acre, there is 0l. 17s. 8d. annual Profit, over and above the People maintain'd, who are necessary to till and manure it.

BUT if we take Tillage in a proper Light, and consider it as plow'd after the *English* and best Method; then the Expence of Plowing, Seed, Rent, Tythe, and all Charges, 'till sent to the Market, will not exceed 2l. 10s. 5d. $\frac{1}{4}$ and the produce upon an Acre may reasonably be computed at 12 Barrels *per* Acre, which would amount to 7l. 4s. 0d. so the neat Profit would be 4l. 7s. 6d. $\frac{1}{4}$ and the annual

annual Profit 2*l.* 3*s.* 9*d.* to the Farmer, to the Publick all the Remainder as before, except Seed and Repairs; which would be above 3*l.* 5*s.* 0*d.* per Ann. national Profit: An Acre of Rye in coarser and higher Grounds, may reasonably be computed at $\frac{2}{3}$ of the Wheat; tho' some account it as good, having generally more Barrels upon the Acre.

THE Expence of an Acre of white Pease, in Plowing, Rent, Tythe, &c. until fit for the Market, is about 1*l.* 14*s.* And at eight Barrels per Acre, and 12*s.* per Barrel, there would be neat Profit 3*l.* 2*s.* per Ann. Beans above 2*l.* 0*s.* 0*d.* Gray Pease the same; Barley at 6*s.* per Barrel about 2*l.* 10*s.* 0*d.* and Oats about 1*l.* 10*s.* 0*d.*

By these Computations may be seen how much more profitable Tillage is to the Kingdom than Pasture. The Profit upon Pasture at a Medium does not exceed 0*l.* 12*s.* 5*d.* per Acre: Whereas the lowest upon Agriculture is 1*l.* 10*s.* 0*d.* neat Profit to the Farmer, the highest 3*l.* 0*s.* 0*d.* when the Markets are at the lowest, over and above all Charges. Rent, Tythe, &c. the Expence of Furniture and Repairs to be deducted. The national Profit and Power is also vastly increas'd by employing so many more Hands in the Management of it, and in making the Utensils belonging to it; it is reasonable to believe that ten Acres in Tillage will give one Family full Employment, whereas (except where Dairys are kept) in Pasture 200 would not. Consequently 200000 Acres under Stock, would not afford Employment for above 1000 Families, and so much in Tillage would employ 20000. I may also venture to affirm, that by proper Management, in sowing Grass Seeds, &c. if a due Proportion of Land be industriously till'd, suppose $\frac{2}{3}$, the $\frac{1}{3}$ remaining in Grass, will breed and maintain as many Cattle as the whole would do without proper Tillage.

SINCE Gardening and Planting is of the same Nature with Agriculture, but in a higher Degree useful, being more profitable, and employing more Hands: The Orchards in Fruit to make Cyder, and other home made Wines, that may prevent Imports of Wine and Brandy; and the Kitchen Gardens, in supplying us with Roots and Greens, which saves so much more Grain for Export; as also Plantations of other Kinds, such as Woad, Weld, Saffron, Liquorice, Madder, Hops, Teasills, &c. each of which will yield at the lowest from 5 or 6*l.* per Acre, to near 60*l.* clear Profit: There can be no occasion to make Estimates of them here.

PLANTATIONS of barren Timber being so necessary an Article, the want of which is at least 40000*l.* per *Ann.* Expence to us in our Imports: By employing Grounds not so proper for other Things that way, we would at least have the Rent of the Land at compound Interest, if they thrive; and great Part of the Time there is no Loss of the Pasture. Considering the Improvement it gives other Grounds also by Shelter, it is surprising it is not much more taken notice of and fallen into. But I shall afterwards give some Reasons for our failing herein, and propose a Remedy which would effectually answer; tho' I am afraid we wont be so kind to our Country and Posterity as to follow it.

THE next Thing I propos'd to consider, was our Exports upon Fish, and the Benefit arising to a Nation from Fisheries, particularly to Islands; which I may say, by Providence are design'd to have that Advantage, from their Situation, for their better Support and the Increase of their Wealth and Power. But 'tis with Concern I must say it, that our Exports upon this Article are small to a shameful Degree, to the lasting Reproach of the Nation. All owing to our
Indolence

Indolence and supine Negligence, in not attempting and prosecuting so beneficial a Branch of Trade, which would vastly increase our Commerce; we being as happily situated for it as any Country in the World, *Britain* excepted; and perhaps I may say nearly equal to it. The whole produce of the Fisheries would be an Addition of Wealth to this Kingdom, deducting Salt and Cask, and by planting, the latter might in Part be supply'd at Home.

OUR Exports upon this Head, don't exceed 14703 *l.* 2 *s.* 11 *d.* at a Medium of eight Years; whereof our Salmon alone amounts to from 8 to 10,000 *l.* Herrings from 3 to 4000 *l.* Hake about 2000 *l.* Ling 400 *l.* and barrell'd Cod 100 *l.* tho' we might with Reason expect 100 times as much of every Kind but Salmon. If we consider the Number of Hands and Ships employ'd in providing every Thing necessary for a Fishery, where it succeeds, as Salt, Casks, Materials for Nets, Lines, &c. and Ships to export the Fish, we will find it is the best Article in Trade for increasing our Sailors and Navigation, and it yields a very great national Profit, when an inconsiderable Gain is acquir'd by private Persons. But designing to treat of it, more at large, separately and afterwards, in another Tract; I will turn to another Article, which at present is very deservedly our Darling. 'Tis the only one we are unconfin'd in, and it saves us from being Bankrupts; which otherwise our Extravagance, and the Demands and Draughts upon us would have long ago brought about. It is our Hempen and Linnen Manufactures, but particularly our Linnen; our Exports upon which at a Medium of the last 8 Years amounts to 284721 *l.* 5 *s.* 9 *d.* $\frac{7}{8}$: but as it is an improving Manufacture, we may take the last Years Export as the lowest Medium, I hope, for any succeeding Years, along with these foregoing, viz. 342295 *l.* 00 *s.* 09.

In order to make the Growth of this Manufacture and the Profit thence arising more visibly appear, I will consider how this Branch stood in 1701, at which Time there was exported

	l.	s.	d.
Linnen Cloth Yards 188000. Value	14112	0	0

Linnen Yarn hundred weights 7821 $\frac{1}{2}$	}	39106	18	4
1 q. 16 l. Value				

Total	53218	18	4
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This hath gradually risen to *Lady-Day* 1727, when the Yards of Linnen Cloth Exported in 1726, were 476888 $\frac{1}{2}$. Value 238444 l. 9 s. 9 d.

Linnen Yarn that Year hundred wt. 17287 3 q. 4 l.	}	103726	l.	11	s.	0	d.
Value							

Stockings Dozens,	124	124	l.	0	s.	0	d.
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Total,	342295	l.	0	s.	9	d.
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So our Manufactures since 1701	}	289076	l.	2	s.	8	d.
have increas'd,							
The Manufacture of Linnen							
and Stockings is increas'd,							
Notwithstanding which our Ex-	}	224456	l.	9	s.	9	d.
ports upon Yarn has encreas'd							
	}	64619	l.	12	s.	8	d.

THIS Manufacture, except about 24400 l. paid abroad for Flax, Flax-seed, Potash and Soap; is all clear Gain to the Nation; so we have at least 317900 l. neat Profit by it.

I OBSERV'D before that the Gross Export of Linnen was above $\frac{1}{3}$ of all our Exports, it being as 337 to 1000; to our Exports upon Cattle without including Sheep as 337 to 489, or as 668 to 1000 nearly;

nearly; to our Exports upon Pasture in general including Sheep (wherein our little Manufactures of Tann'd Leather, Spinning of Wooll, and other small Manufactures of Sheep, as Glew, Gloves, Hats, Frize, and Flannen, are included) as 337 to 613, or 548 to 1000 nearly; which is above one half. But this is not all; let us consider how much is sav'd to the Nation in lessening the Quantity of Holland and Linnens imported from abroad, and of Callicoes, by the home Consumption of our stamp'd and strip'd Linnens; I believe I shall be within Bounds if I compute them before the Rise of these Manufactures among us at 50000*l.* more than are now imported; and as our Numbers since the Reduction of *Ireland* in 1691 are increas'd about ; in the Manner we are supply'd with Linnens, 80000*l.* would not now be sufficient for us; I shall only beg Leave by a Computation in one Instance to make it highly probable I speak modestly of what we save in this Article of Importation: And that by showing how much is spent among us of our own Manufacture of this sort, in the Article of shifting. In this instance to make my Computation appear far within the Truth, I shall but allow one Shift *per Ann.* to each Person in the Kingdom, whereas I am inform'd by labouring Persons that two will scarce suffice, and most of them take three. The Linnen made use of in shifting the lowest Rank of Men, (who being the Bulk of the Kingdom, all Computations of this Kind are safest and nearest the Truth, when the Rich who are the fewest in Number, are lump'd with them in the Calculation) is Cloth of $\frac{3}{4}$ or $\frac{7}{8}$ broad, which is generally sold from 15*s.* to 17*s.* 6*d.* *per* Score, or from 9*d.* to 10*d.* $\frac{1}{2}$ *per* Yard; here I shall compute it at 10*d.* *per* Yard, 3 Yards goes to a Woman's Shift, and 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ to a Man's; but as the Number of Persons under sixteen, are nearly equal to those above it, and much less being us'd in Children's Shifts, than in those

those of Persons grown up I; shall take a Medium of 2 Yards to each Person's Shift, (it being as I think still less than the Truth) which is 1 s. 8 d. for a Shift to each Person in *Ireland*. By the Extract of the Houses and Hearths which I took out of the Custom-House Books, Abstracts of which I give afterwards in a 2d Part; it appears that in 1725 there were at least 382,785 Houses inhabited in *Ireland*; without including Barracks, Colledges, or Hospitals: and by Returns that I have from several Country Parishes, of the Souls in each Family, I have found at a Medium 4.36 or a little more than 4; to each Family: the Families being larger in Towns, this also is rather within the Truth; there would then be at least 1668,942 Souls in *Ireland*; which at 1 s. 8 d. per Shift, the Sum would amount to 139078 l. 10 s. 0 d. Now if two Shifts be suppos'd a reasonable Allowance, considering I was within Bounds in the Quantity made use of in a Shift, even the youngest Children included; and considering how many have more than two of greater Breadth and Fineness; then the Value of shifting alone in *Ireland* would be 278157 l. which is near $\frac{1}{3}$ of all the Exports of Linnen. If to this be added the Sheeting, and Table-Linnen, Tick-ing, and other Things necessary in Womens and Childrens Wear, such as Frocks, Aprons, Caps, &c. it may be computed to amount to as much more. Over and above all this there are stamp'd Linnens, strip'd, mix'd with Cotton, Silk, and Woollen; Buckrams, Canvas, Thread, Incles, Tapes, &c. so that should I say our Linnen Manufacture by our Exports and Home Consumption amounts to 1000,000 l. *sterl.* I believe I should not far exceed the Truth.

I SHALL next consider how little of the Kingdom is taken up with this Manufacture; when I say there are not above five Counties employ'd and fully imbark'd in making Linnens, viz. *Antrim, Down, Armagh, Tyrone* and *Derry*, I am I believe near the Truth.

Truth. Part of these which are only spinning Counties, will be more than equivalent to the Parts of other Counties wherein this Manufacture has made any Progress; there are not above five more employed in spinning, viz. *Donnegal, Monaghan, Cavan*, and as many Spinners dispers'd among the other Counties in *Ireland*, as may make up five spinning Counties in all; so there are not above ten Counties in Thirty Two any way embark'd in the Linnen Manufacture. If it be consider'd also how little Ground is employ'd in raising the Flax for this Manufacture, it will still appear in a better Light, and the Advantage more surprising. 3000 Hogheads of forreign Flax Seed is somewhat above the Medium imported yearly; but for the sake of a round Number, being near it, I will choose it; if we suppose the increase of this *Communibus Annis* to be two Hogheads for each that is sown; which I am afraid is still above the Truth, considering that many pull their Flax without saving the Seed; and that wet Seasons prevent others that would; all the Seed sav'd, together with the import of the following Year, will be but Nine Thousand Hogheads; let us suppose that Quantity to be sowed the second Year, and the same increase in Proportion; this would amount to 18000, to which add the three Thousand imported next Season, and there would be 21000 Hogheads sown annually; for as yet they seldom save it longer, but depend upon forreign Seed. I suppose what the Native *Irish* save and sow of *Irish* Seed, to be adulterated and impoverish'd by Mismanagement, and from thence commonly call'd short Flax Seed, will make up what in the rest is wanting of the computed increase of the Seed, viz. two for One sown; this Deficiency is occasion'd by bad Seasons, and not saving the Seed, and by pulling it too green in order as they pretend to make the Flax finer. Hence it is probable 21000 Hogheads is the

greatest Quantity sow'd annually in *Ireland*. A Plantation Acre and Rod being allow'd to every Hog's head sown, there would be 26250 Acres under Flax. And there being 11042642 computed Acres in the Kingdom, there would not be a 368th Part of the Kingdom employ'd in producing the third Part of the Exports of the Nation; and most Part of that of the lighter and less profitable Lands in the Kingdom, for Grain or Pasture: The great Out-cry there was upon the foreign Seeds being damag'd one Year, and the great Expence the Nation was at, in importing foreign Flax to employ our Spinners and Poor, make it still more probable that I am not much out in this Computation.

As I have made it highly probable that the Value of our Flax, when spun and manufactured, is, by home Consumption, and export, worth a Million to the Nation; if there be in round Numbers 30000 Acres employ'd under Flax, each Acre is worth to the Nation 33 *l.* : 6 *s.* : 8 *d.* *per An.* According to the mean and poor living of the Labourers in *Ireland*, 10 *l.* *per An.* would be more than sufficient to maintain a Family; so that an Acre of Flax would be sufficient to maintain 14 $\frac{5188}{6000}$ Souls, consequently 30000 *l.* Acres under Flax, would employ and maintain 435564 Souls, besides the Husbandmen, and Tradesmen necessary to supply this Number with Provisions and other Necessaries; whereas so much in grazing would employ but 665 Souls; and at 12 *s.* *per Acre* the value of the grazing, would maintain but 1800 Families at 10 *l.* *per Family*, or 7848 Souls, which bears the Proportion to these the Flax upon the same Ground would maintain as 1 to 55.5.

By this may be seen the vast Disproportion there is between the Profit arising to a Nation, from Lands employ'd under Materials for Manufactures, and what arises from Grazing alone, as to Numbers employ'd necessarily in each, *viz.* about 664 to 1. As
a fur-

a further Confirmation of this, I will propose another way of Computation, which is not liable to so many Objections as that already us'd. By this the Disproportion appears to be nearly as great as in the former Computation. In this last way we compute the Quantity of Flax rais'd upon an Acre of Ground at a Medium, and then what Quantity of Cloth (such as is the general Manufacture of the Country) is usually made out of it. An Acre of Flax may be computed to have at least 30 Stone of Flax fit for the Heckle; each Stone of which by proper Management may be spun into 22 Dozen of Yarn, of 4 Dozen in the Pound, the rest being Tow Yarn is only fit for Sacking, and of little Value. This Yarn when wrought into Cloth, Yard wide, of 1400 Threads on each side the Woof, commonly call'd fourteen hundred Cloth, will out of 35 Dozen make 20 Yards. Such Cloth is sold when whiten'd at about 30s. *per* Score. Thus 22 Dozen will make 12½ Yards or a little more, and in Value is about 18s. 9 d. ½; which being multiply'd by 30, the Number of Stones of Flax growing on an Acre, amounts to 28 l. 4s. 10 d. consequently an Acre would maintain 12.3 Souls; and 30000 Acres 369000. So that this way, the Proportion betwixt the Linnen Manufacture and Grazing, as to Numbers employ'd in each, would be about Five Hundred and Sixty Three to One.

THE Value of our Exports upon other small Articles, such as Mettals, Wood, &c. at a Medium, not exceeding 20786 l. 7s. 7½ d. there is very little occasion to animadvert upon it, tho' it may be hop'd that by proper Application, such Improvements may be made in Manufacturing some of them, particularly Iron, as may increase our Exports in some of these Articles.

OUR Re-exports is the only Article by which we gain upon forreign Importations, by it we become

the Carriers and Brokers for other Nations; and may make a considerable Gain for Ware-house Room, and lying out of our Money, for Freight, and by the rise of Markets abroad, notwithstanding the Waste upon several Species of Goods. It is also a great Means of increasing our Ships and Navigation; this Article doth not at present exceed 37009*l.* 19*s.* 0 $\frac{1}{8}$ *d.* about half of which goes to *Britain*, the greatest Part in Wine and Brandy; about $\frac{1}{2}$ to *Spain*, *Portugal* and the *Straits*, $\frac{1}{2}$ to the *West-Indies*, and near $\frac{1}{4}$ to the East Country, which comprehends all Countries North of *Holland*; very little to *France*, *Holland* or *Flanders*. The chief Articles re-exported are these following, *viz.*

	<i>l.</i>
Brandy Value	9500
Wine French	8300
Drapery	900
Wine Spanish	800
Lead	2200
Herrings Value	1000
Brown Sugar	1800
Iron	750
Salt	1000
Train Oyl	400
Cains and Reeds	90
Total	26740 0

THE remaining 10269*l.* 19*s.* 0 $\frac{1}{8}$ *d.* is made up of many small Articles not worth mentioning here.

HAVING thus made the Observations I propos'd upon our several Exports; and shewn the Proportion of our Trade in each Branch, and the proportional Benefit thence arising to the Kingdom, by the increase of our Numbers and Employment of our Poor;

Poor; I shall now State the Value of our imports, and give the Medium of the most considerable of them for several Years, and make some Observations upon them as I proceed.

Our Imports at a Medium of 7 Years, ending *Lady-day* 1727, amounted to 843392 *l.* 9 *s.* 10²⁷/₂₈ *d.* and the Values of the several Goods here mention'd at the Medium of the several Years annex'd to each Species, are the Proportions of the Parts, which Contribute to make up that Total, *viz.*

The Number of Years upon which
each Medium is struck. }

Years		<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
9	{ <i>French</i> Wine Valued at 20 <i>l.</i> } per Tun,	83156	5	10 ¹ / ₂
4	of <i>Ditto</i> at <i>Ditto</i> ,	91658	14	6
9	<i>Spanish</i> Wine at 30 <i>l.</i> per Tun,	15704	13	7 ¹ / ₂
9	<i>Port</i> Wine at 30 <i>l.</i> per Tun,	3169	11	9
6	<i>Rhenish</i> at 36 <i>l.</i> per Tun,	1704	19	8 ¹ / ₂

Taking the <i>French</i> at the 4 Years } Medium. Total.	112237	19	6 ¹ / ₂
6 Brandy at 1 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i> per Gallon,	23446	18	6

Total of Wine and Brandy, 135684 18 0¹/₂

Wines Imported in 1726, 142586 8 5¹/₂
Brandys for said Year, 30871 13 9

Total, 173458 2 2¹/₂

This was a vast Year's Import, but partly occasion'd by the Stop put to the Trade commonly carried on by the *Isle of Man*; however the Wines and Brandys, being lodg'd there from *France* in former Years, would have increas'd the Medium; had they been

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been annually added to the Importation equally as
now.

Total. 135684 18 0 $\frac{1}{2}$

Medium of the Imports
continued,
Years

6	Paper at 8s. per Ream. Value	8624	0	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
6	Wood Cent { Barks at 42l. Deals at 3l. }	40666	13	4
6	Whalebone at 17l. per Cent.	5503	13	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
6	Tobacco at 4d. per lib.	59529	7	2
6	Tea at 5s. per lib.	12263	15	0
6	{ Silk Manufacture at 3l. 10s. per lib. }	37955	12	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
6	Raw Silk at 18s. per D $^{\circ}$.	21084	5	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
6	{ Silk thrown undy'd at 11s. per D $^{\circ}$. }	17613	8	4
6	Salt Foreign at 12d. per Busbel	9132	10	8
6	White Salt at 8d. per D $^{\circ}$.	8921	8	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
6	Salt Rock at 12s. per Tun,	1425	12	10
6	Flower at 1l. 10s. per Barrel,	4083	10	11
6	{ Hull'd Barley at 1l. 5s. per Cent. }	677	4	2
6	Wheat at 1l. 8s. per Quarter.	27048	4	6
5	{ Barley and Malt at 12s. per D $^{\circ}$. }	7255	2	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
6	Muslin at 2s. 6d. per Yard,	18197	17	11
6	Holland at 5s. per Ell,	5806	17	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
6	Cambricks at 7s. per Ditto	7394	18	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
3	Bone-Lace at 16s. per Yard,	6016	10	11
6	Hops at 3l. per Cent.	40681	18	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
6	Hemp at 1l. 12s. per D $^{\circ}$.	10480	4	6
6	Incle { unwrought at 5s. per lib. } { wrought at 7s. per D $^{\circ}$. }	3044	5	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
6	Sugar Candy at 6l. per Cent.	754	5	7
6	Sugar Candy at 6l. per Cent.	943	4	3
6	Loaf Sugar at 5l. per D $^{\circ}$.	7910	8	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
6	Muscovado Sugar at 2l. per D $^{\circ}$.	52940	7	9
	6. Powder			

Years

Imports continued.

6	{ Powder Sugar at 3 l. 10 s. } per Cent.	3329	11	1 1/2
4	Gloves at 4 s. per Pair,	679	10	0
	Cases at 18 d. per Do.	1932	18	6
5	Glass { Drinking at 2 d. per piece } Ware	1108	16	3
		2251	9	8 1/2
6	Fustians at 18 s. per End,	4080	15	0
4	Flax at 1 l. 6 s. per Cent.	13888	13	3
6	Herrings at 14 s. per Barrel,	4407	5	8
5	Earthen Ware,	5242	15	2 1/2
6	Madder at 2 l. per Cent.	5128	8	0
6	Coffee at 16 l. per Ditto,	6176	3	0
6	Coals at 14 s. per Tun,	42059	0	8
6	{ Glass Bottles at 1 s. 3 d. per } Dozen,	3419	7	6 1/2
6	Bark at 6 s. per Barrel,	16116	10	3
6	Grogram Yarn at 4 s. per lib.	6022	17	4
5	Cotton Wooll at 5 l. per Cent.	1560	18	3 1/2
6	Salt Petre at 4 l. 4 s. per Cent.	2206	8	3
5	Potash at 1 l. 5 s. per Ditto.	2091	9	10
5	{ Lintseed at 2 l. 16 s. per } Hogshead.	8156	8	6 1/2
5	Gunpowder at 3 l. 5 s. per Cent.	1854	13	1 1/2
4	Liquorice at 1 l. per Cent.	207	6	11
4	Succus Liquor. at 8 d. per lib.	779	2	5 1/2
2	Sythes at 16 s. per Dozen.	2072	9	8
2	Knives at 2 d. each	2651	4	9
	Drapery { Old at 15 s. per Yard, New at 2 s. per Ditto. Prunella at 3 s. 6 d. per Do. Shag at 4 s. 6 d. per Do. }	23679	2	0
3	Iron at 14 s. per Cent.	29678	16	7
2	{ Thread Gold and Silver at } 3 s. per lib.	5351	2	6

Imports

Imports continued.

Years

		Sisters at 12 s. per lib.	1185	8	0
3	Thread	Whited Brown at 2 s. 6 d. per Doz.	253	0	7
3	{	Needles at 5 l. per Thousand.	337	3	6
3		Pins at 14 s. per Ditto.	61	9	2
3		Thimbles at 2 l. 10 s. per Thous.	266	0	6
3		Hatts at 15 s. each,	723	0	0
3		Sevill Oyl at 3 s. 6 d. per Gall.	4533	11	4½
3		Linseed Oyl at 2 s. 6 d. per Do.	1507	0	11¼
2		Train Oyl at 1 s. 6 d. per Do.	1873	11	3¼
		Books Value	7800	0	0
		Candle Wick at 3 l. per Cent.	640	0	0
		Wooll Cards at 12 s. per Doz.	800		
		Drugs, Value	5470		
		Allum at 15 s. per Cent.	1200		
		Cochineel at 18 s. per lib.	2800		
		Indico at 3 s. 6 d. per lib.	4200		
		Logwood at 18 s. per Cent.	2200		
		Red Wood at 2 l. per Cent.	4880		
		Steel at 1 l. 10 s. per Cent.	1500		
		Lead at 12 s. per Cent.	6600		
		Lawns at 6 s. per Ell,	1000		
		Millinary Ware,	2000		
		Slates at 8 s. per Thousand,	700		
		Snuff at 2 s. per lib.	2300		
	Stockings	{ Silk at 15 s. Worsted at 6 s. }	500		
		Pitch at 15 s. per Barrel,	1330		
		Tarr at 12 s. per Ditto.	1600		
		Rozin at 18 s. per Cent.	1150		
		Cider at 8 l. per Tun.	2500		
		Toys at	1800		
		Pewter and Tin,	2700		

Imports

Imports continued.

	l.	s.	d.
Cork at 3 s. per Cent.	3300		
Oranges and Lemmons.	3000		
Wallnuts at 2 l. per Barrel,	2000		
Vinegar at 10 l. per Tun,	2500		
Pruins at 15 s. per Cent.	1500		
Groceries of Spice and Fruit	20600		
Iron at 2 l. 4 s. per Cent.	3300		
Wire { Steel at 12 l.			
Latin at 7 l.			
Brass at 7 l.			
Spanish Wooll at 2 l. 15 s. per Cent.	368		
Copper Plates at 6 l. 10 s. per Cent.	3725		
Battery and Brass Shruff at 5 l. and 8 l. per Cent.			
Painting Stuff,	270		
Tin Plates at 3 l. per Barrel,	1000		
Garden Seeds at 2 s. 8 d. per lib.	1450		
Lattin at 7 l. per Cent.	240		
Lamp Black at 4 s. 6 l. per lib.	740		
Iron Ore at 10 s. per Tun.	990		
Goats Hair at 4 s. per lib.	800		
Fanns at 1 s. 8 d. each	860		
Apples at 2 s. 6 d. per Bushel.	360		

Total. - - - 862786 17 2 $\frac{1}{2}$

The Imports at a Medium of 7 } 843392 9 10 $\frac{17}{24}$
 Years as before being

This exceeds that Medium, 19394 7 3 $\frac{11}{24}$

SINCE besides these Mediums of our Imports
 that I have here given, there are several small Par-
 cels

cells and Articles I have not mentioned, as being no way material in Trade, which if added would have increas'd this Excess of the Medium, 10 or 12 thousand Pounds more: I will obviate what may be said against it, and give the Reason why it can by no means tally with the Medium of 7 Years.

I THOUGHT it would have been endless to take Extracts of all the Particulars of our imports, from the Ledgers of the Custom-House, for each Years Abstracts I took; I therefore singled out the full Extracts for the Year ending *Lady-day* 1726, in all the Species of Goods Exported and Imported; then I took out all the Exports for 8 Years, and struck my Medium upon them, and took only the Imports which appeared largest, and affected our Trade most; those I took carefully for six Years as noted here to each; Others which I thought not quite so material, I took for 5, 4, or 3 Years; and these which I have here inserted without naming any Years to them, were taken from the Extracts I took for 1725. This is the Reason why they can by no Means tally, as having been taken at a Medium of Years, some more, some less, and also the fewer Years in the Medium as our imports increas'd, so consequently must the Medium. As for Instance the Medium of our Imports taken for 6 Years amounts to 870063*l.* 17*s.* 11*d.* $\frac{2}{3}$ this exceeds the Medium of the several Species I have set down here 7277*l.* 9*d.* $\frac{5}{8}$ which would be nearly equivalent to the small Parcels omitted by me, as no way material in Trade. So likewise the Medium of our Imports for the last four Years, ending *Lady-day* 1727, amounts to 915114*l.* 4*s.* 10*d.* $\frac{3}{4}$ which exceeds the Medium given here 52000 nearly. Thus notwithstanding I could not make them Tally, I thought by inserting them, I would give the Publick a pretty just View of the Nature and Quantity of our Imports. I have here fairly laid down the true Reason why they can't justly Tally, notwithstanding

standing the Extracts are true. It was for the same Reason, where I did not take Mediums for several Years, as those I have last laid down here; that I would not add the Fractions as not being material.

I HAVE here for the Satisfaction of the Curious, taken such of those Imports as I could properly range under the following Heads, and divided them so, as to give the Values of those tending to promote our Luxury, separately from what are necessary or convenient, viz.

	l.	s.	d.
Our Imports for Drink and Materials for Drinking amount to	208134	12	0
For Meat and Medicine	136416	14	9
For Apparel and Furniture Manufactur'd	157282	2	0
Unwrought Manufactures or Primms, Barks included	134964	17	8
In Mettals and their Appurtenances and Manufactures	62317	16	7
In Wood and the Appurtenances	44486	0	0
In Tobacco and Snuff	61929	7	2
In Firing	42059	0	8
In Books, Toys, and other Articles not easily reducable to these foremention'd	15196	6	4½
Total	862786	17	2½

THUS may be seen in what Species of Goods our Imports consist, in what Kinds we are most extravagant, what we must have from abroad, and with what we may be supply'd at home: That from hence we may be prompted to discourage as much as possible, what only feeds our Luxury, and which we can't have but from abroad; and to encourage

those we must have, to be brought to us from such Countries, as have the Ballance most in our Favour.

It will be proper here to take Notice how some of the most material Articles of our Imports may be abated by being supply'd at home; first by planting Orchards in such Countries and Lands as may be properest for them: These would not only afford Cider sufficient to prevent an Importation upon us amounting to 2500*l.* but also in some Measure check the Importation of Wine and Brandy: For Brandy may very well be extracted from such Cider, as upon tryal is found not proper for Drinking, or from what is made by the second pressing, or from the Cores when fermented with Water a very good Spirit might be Extracted not inferior to Brandy. Encouragement should also be given, to distill Spirits from Molossus, and coarse Sugar; by which Means a great Part of our Expence upon Spirits may be sav'd, exceeding now 23000*l.* by having also good Cider and Ale, with home made Wines from Honey and Sugar, half the Expence of Wines may be sav'd; and the middle and lower Ranks of Men, may very well be contented with them: By this Means 40 or 50000*l.* may be sav'd in the Article of Wine.

Hops by being planted in our rich and warm Counties of *Linrick* and *Tipperary*, and other Southern Parts, may save the Kingdom the Expence of that Article, or in case our Demands increase by having more Ale, it may prevent the increase of the Importation, or the extravagant Price they are held at sometimes in bad Seasons. The Medium now is 40000*l.*

'Tis shameful our Exports upon Grain, should be so far exceeded by our Imports; which notwithstanding the wetness of our Climate is in great Measure owing to bad Husbandry and want of Granaries. We might not only save that Article which before the Year 1727 was at least 10000*l.* annual

annual Expence to us, and hath much increas'd since that time; but we might reasonably expect to Export to the Value of 40000 *l.* had we many Gentlemen of so great Publick Spirit as the late Mr. *Edwards*, that would be at the Expence to bring over and settle upon good Farms, *English* Farmers to instruct us, and improve the Tillage of *Ireland*. The Importation of Glass, Glass-ware and Bottles may be lessen'd: But this will be chiefly owing to our getting Coals in sufficient Quantity in the Kingdom, upon which also our Manufacture of Salt depends. In our Firing we might save somewhat; could we get Coals near the Shore in Plenty, or within a reasonable distance for Water Carriage. But if our Numbers and Trade increase, and our Bogs be drain'd or run out, as they are doing in many Places, since our Plantations go on very slowly, tho' we use all our own, we shall import near as much Coals, as we do now from *Britain*. Most of what we would save by it, would be in our Articles of Salt and Glass.

THE most effectual way to do this at present, until proper Laws be made for Encouragement to search for Mines to advantage, would be to promote the Navigation from *Ballycastle*, and to undertake the *Newry* Navigation, from *Lough-neak*; the Coals in *Tyrone* being daily found better and in greater Quantities near that Lough. To encourage us in the latter, the Ground through which the Canal of Communication may be made, is as easy to be dug as any in *Ireland*, and the River of *Tonragee*, as also the upper *Bann* if necessary, as well as the Water of *Lough-Brickland*, may be brought to *Lough-Shark* near *Aston*, (which is the greatest height from whence the several Locks are to be supply'd, at a moderate Expence. These are such Encouragements, as will make it highly reasonable to be undertaken either by the Publick or by private Persons.

TOBACCO

TOBACCO and Snuff is a Debauch I am afraid we shan't easily get rid of, it is a heavy Article upon us: the Importation of the one at 4*d.* the other at 2*s.* per Pound, exceeding sixty one thousand Pounds per Ann. besides what is imported by Stealth, which is unavoidable where the Duty is so high. Whalebone, Fish, and Fish Oyl, we might have of our own, and also enough to export in great Quantity, of which I will treat when I touch upon the Improvement of our Fisheries.

OUR Silk Manufacture will I hope in some Time improve so much, as to take off our Expence upon that Article, except a few of the choicest of the *British* Silks for Birth-Days and Wedding-Suits. I am persuaded our *Irish* Ladies would appear with more Lustre in their Native Charms, when clad in *Irish* Silks, in the Eyes of their Admirers, than in the richest Brocades of Foreign Nations: The Employment of our own Poor by the Encouragement given to our Manufactures, would be more highly meritorious in them; since it would at the same time put a Check to the Vanity of their Admirers, who are solely directed by them in the Choice of their Dress, and would entirely submit to their Taste, admiring them then more for their Prudence, than formerly for any Ornaments prejudicial to their Country.

WE might save also in our Importation of Gold and Silver Lace; Twist and Thread, Lawns, Fustians and Millinary Ware amounting at present to 12000 at least; Part of which is run in upon us, as of all our fine Goods which pay a high Duty. This would be in a great Measure prevented by Cheapness of Sale, which would make the Temptation so much less. The Importation of Muslins, Cambricks, Lace, and Hollands, amounting to 37000*l.* will I hope in some Time sink by the Disuse of Lace and Muslins, and Improvement of the others at home, as well in Bleaching

Bleaching as otherwise, and this saving to the Nation, as well as in Silks, is entirely in the Power of the Ladies by their Approbation and Example either to promote or discourage the Wear of them; they are the Spring that sets the whole Machine of Dress in Motion, and to them the Praise or Blame must be owing according to the Example they give.

HEMP and Flax with their Seeds, and Incle (of which we Import to the Value of 35000*l.*) will I am confident by the Vigilance and happy Direction of the TRUSTEES of the Linnen Manufacture, be lessen'd to a Trifle; if we consider by their Care to what a Pitch it is brought in 26 Years, that we now export above the Value of 289000*l.* more than in 1700, besides what we consume at home, it will appear truly surprizing. It is entirely owing to that Honourable Board that the Credit of our Linnens is supported; without which *Ireland* must have sunk, considering the Drains and Draughts that are constantly upon it. For this they merit the sincere Acknowledgments of the Publick, and may justly be esteem'd true Patriots of their Country.

NOTWITHSTANDING the universal Practice in other Countries of saving their Seed not only for their own Use, but for Foreign Sale and to make Oyl of, and that their Flax is valued and much sought after, which seems to be a convincing Argument that it is good and fine; yet the Spinners here will not allow that its a Benefit to prevent the Importation of Foreign Flax Seed, by saving all at home, affirming that Flax pull'd before it's fully ripe, consequently before the Seed is fit to be sav'd, is much finer and better; that it breaks into finer and smaller Parts, and splits better upon Heckling; that it gives more Flax to be spun into fine Yarn, and better colour'd; they say this appears from daily Experience; and those who deal in buying Yarn give them a higher Price when it is spun from Flax not
fully

fully ripe. They farther urge and insist upon it, that because the Frost and Blasts sometimes happen to the Flax, and often wet Seasons, it is more convenient to save only so much as to prevent the Loss occasioned by depending too much upon the Foreign Seed, which sometimes proves bad, and has more than once been highly prejudicial to us. To clear up these Difficulties, repeated Experiments should be made upon Parcels of Flax growing in the same Ground, taking Part green, watering it and trying the Quantity, Colour and Goodness of it, and stacking the Remainder when ripe, and afterwards carefully watering, breaking, and heckling it; we should see the proportionable Goodness and Quantity of each. This would effectually put a Stop to the Practice, if it be only Humour, or confirm it if true.

WE might also improve our Earthen Ware at home, and lessen the Importation, which now amounts to above 5000*l*. Madder amounting to an equal Sum, may also be rais'd in the rich Grounds of *Limerick* and *Tipperary*, not only to serve our selves, but also *England*, which takes from *Flanders* annually to the Value of 17 or 18000*l*. the Iron Manufacture amounting to 15000*l*. at least, may be less'n'd by Improvements at home, *viz.* Knives, Razors, Pots, Cifars, Sythes, Carpenters Tools, Needles, Pins, Thimbles, and other Species innumerable, as well in Brass and Copper as in Iron. Our Exportation of these not being prohibited, we might perhaps improve them so as to Export them to Advantage. Bark, if Tanning by the Root will answer in Part, as suggested; amounting now to 16000*l*. would in some Measure be sav'd, and our Hides be sent out Tann'd instead of Raw, which would make the Advantage double. Paper amounting to 8600*l*. might also be sav'd; as our Linnens improve, Implements, that is Rags, for the Mills encrease: nor do I think it amiss since the *Dutch* import

port Rags for their Mills, that *Ireland* should follow their Example.

As for our Importation of Wood, I am afraid we shall not in a long Time, if ever, save in that Article, even should we plant, to which we seem generally to have so great a Disinclination: For as we encrease and improve, our Demands for it will still be encreasing: and when *Norway* and the *Baltick* fail, we must look out for another Market; to buy at a greater Expence. It would be endless to mention all the Articles, such as Gunpowder, Fans, Toys, Garden Seeds, &c. we might save in.

UPON the whole, by proper and prudent Management we might save of our Imports at least 250,000*l.* and Export in some of these very Articles at least 100000*l.* This would make a very considerable Alteration in our Commerce to the Benefit of the Kingdom. Having now laid open to the View of the Publick the several Branches of our Trade both in our Exports and Imports, and consider'd the Ballance as arising from our Estimates in the Custom-House Books, I will consider it a little further, and propose what in my Opinion may be reasonably presum'd a Ballance upon the whole Demand upon us, so as the Kingdom may not diminish in Wealth.

THE Ballance at a Medium as before mention'd was computed at 172188*l.* 7*s.* 4¹/₄, if the Freight of the Tunnage of *Irish* Shipping, amounting at a Medium to 37453 Tuns, which computed at 40*s.* per Tun, (and this I am afraid, is considerably above the Medium of Freight upon our Shipping) amounts to 74906*l.* If this I say be added to the Ballance, it will make it 247094*l.* 7*s.* 4¹/₄. Upon this it might be reasonably imagin'd that *Ireland* should improve, grow Rich, and encrease in Trade; but by Experience we find the contrary. Within these 3 or 4 Years our Stock and Money has lessen'd, notwithstanding the Markets at home are at an excessive Price, for Things con-

sum'd at home, this has in a great Measure been owing to bad Seasons, which have taken off our Exports upon Grain, and occasion'd our Imports upon that Article to be dearer, by the Rise of Markets abroad. But that is not all: our Luxury daily increases, infomuch that our Imports for the Year 1726 exceeded the Medium of last 7 Years, by the Sum of 186667*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.* wherein the last Year's Import is included. But exclusive of that, taking the Medium at six Years before, *viz.* 812281*l.* 5*s.* 5½. the Increase of our Imports in 1726, amounts to 217778*l.* 10*s.* 11*d.* whereof *French* Wine amounts to 26000*l.* more than formerly,

Port and Spanish Wine to	12500
Brandy to	7400
Tobacco	12500
Bone-Lace,	2000
Wood,	9000
Coals,	5900
Hops,	21000
Iron,	5000
Callicoes,	1500
Silk Manufacture,	12000
Cambricks,	4000
Muslin,	1500
Paper	2500
Salt,	3000
Silk	{ Raw - - - 9000
	{ Thrown undyed, - - 4000
Total of the Excess	138800

THE other Articles are not so material, so I need not recapitulate them here. This only shews that our Importations that Year were not totally owing to the Difficulties put upon the Trade of the *Ile of Man*, but in a great Measure to our encreasing Luxury.

UPON

UPON the whole, if our Exports, by the Profit of the Merchants upon Freight and Foreign Sale, and the Prices of our Goods at Market here, don't over-balance our Imports according to Valuation, at least 400,000*l.* I don't think *Ireland* can have any Ballance in its Favour. For if we consider the Rents return'd into *England*, of Noblemen and Gentlemen residing there, those who have Civil Employments and keep Deputies, General Officers and other Military Persons absent, Pensioners and Half-Pay Officers, Post-Office, Gentlemen who go there for Education, young Heirs who go there to spend and ruin their Fortunes; all put together can't be less than what I have mention'd.

If a Calculation I have seen of a Person lately of eminent Distinction and Learning, was taken with Accuracy, it exceeds it considerably, and amounts to 456000*l. per Ann.* 'Tis computed thus.

Rents to Noblemen and Gentlemen residing in <i>England</i> ,	} 300000
Those who have Civil Employments and keep Deputies,	} 20000
Military Officers absent,	50000
Gentlemen who go for Education, and to spend their Fortunes,	} 60000
Pensioners and Half-Pay Officers,	20000
Post-Office,	6000
	456000
If to this be added the absent Troops we pay in <i>Giberalter</i> , at least	} 30000
The Total amounts to	486000

To this should be added the Interest of Money paid in *England*; the Interest of Money here being higher

higher than there; as also Exchange, which partly affects us, and by Reason of these strong Draughts upon us, is generally two thirds of the Year, from 2 to 4 *per Cent.* above *Par.*

Thus may be seen how our Trade stands in relation to our general Ballance; and how careful we ought to be to retrench in Time, e're we too fatally find the Effects of our encreasing Luxury, before Idleness and Debauchery prevail too far among the middle and lower Ranks of Men: these readily follow the Examples of those of higher Station; especially in what they ought not; they think at present to glide easily with the Stream, without reflecting upon the almost insuperable Difficulty of afterwards stemming the Current to prevent sinking.

I SHALL next make particular Estimates of our Exports and Imports to, and from the several Nations with whom we Trade, as they are distinguish'd in the Custom-House Books, and observe where the Ballance lies with each of them. As I proceed I shall also remark what Advantages or Disadvantages we have (that occur to me) in our Trade with each respectively. In this *England* has and ought to have the Preference; as well upon Account of our being Embark'd upon the same Bottom, as that our Trade is but a Branch of their extended Commerce, (the Ballance of which I shall demonstrate we pour in upon them, in Return for the Protection they have from time to time afforded us) as also upon account of the Greatness of our Exports to, and Imports from them and their Plantations, which exceed considerably the Trade we have with all other Nations join'd together,

AN ABSTRACT of the Exports, Imports and Ballance with *England* for 8 Years, from *Lady-Day* 1719, to *Lady-Day* 1727.

Years.	Exports			Imports.			Ballance.			Contra. Ballance.		
	l.	s.	d.	l.	s.	d.	l.	s.	d.	l.	s.	d.
1719	447659	2	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	476187	14	1 $\frac{1}{2}$				28528	11	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
1720	363529	10	5	375803	8	8 $\frac{1}{2}$				12273	18	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
1721	440946	17	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	409605	6	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	31341	11	0 $\frac{1}{2}$			
1722	544002	7	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	507737	10	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	36264	17	4 $\frac{1}{2}$			
1723	554431	1	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	519362	5	1	34068	16	4 $\frac{1}{2}$			
1724	476632	14	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	441799	3	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	34835	11	4			
1725	467949	2	7	501649	6	3 $\frac{1}{2}$				33700	3	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
1726	495497	13	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	558261	10	3 $\frac{1}{2}$				62763	17	0
Total.	3790648	10	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	3790406	4	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	137508	16	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	137266	10	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Medium	473831	1	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	473800	15	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	30	5	7 $\frac{1}{2}$			

The Medium of our Exports thither, }
consisting of Linnen and Linnen Yarn }
about

By Wool, Woollen and Worsted Yarn } 267000 00 00
117554 15 10 $\frac{1}{2}$
384554 15 10 $\frac{1}{2}$

	l.	s.	d.
Copper Oar about	-	-	1900
Feathers	-	-	1880
Hair	-	-	2000
Raw Hides	-	-	2900
Kelp	-	-	1000
Calve Skins	-	-	13924
Goat and Kid Skins	-	-	1100
Sheep and Lamb Skins	-	-	6844
Rabbit Skins	-	-	4100
Tallow	-	-	19760

Total of all 439962 15 10 $\frac{1}{2}$

THE other Articles; which make up the Remainder of our Exports amounting to about 339000*l.* are, Goods Re-exported about 15000, chiefly Wine and Brandy; Beef, Butter, Candles, Fish, Flannel, Frize, small Horses, Hogs-lard, Pork, Rape-Seed and other small Parcels, which are generally the Provisions and little Necessaries, Collyers and other Seamen carry with them, in their Portage on their return home.

By this it appears plainly, that we Export to *England* the first Principles of their Manufactures of several Kinds, viz. Wool, Oar, Skins, Hair, Feathers, Hides, and Tallow, about 172900*l.* in Linnen Yarn about 90000*l.* so there is above 262900. exported to them of such Things as are absolutely necessary for carrying on and encreasing their Commerce, and for employing their People, the Linnen Yarn being particularly useful in carrying on their *Northern* Manufactures of Linnen and Mixtures of Linnen with Wool and Cotton. And our Linnens amounting to about 177000*l.* is made a Manufacture there, by being stamp'd of stain'd, and saves a great deal of their rich Manufactures in Wool, &c. for Exportation; which is so much sav'd from Foreigners in our Hands for their use, being afterwards spent in *Britain*, where all our Redundant Cash goes. So that of all our Exports to *England*, there is not 34000*l.* Luxuriously spent in it, consequently they must be a great Benefit to their Trade and Commerce.

The Imports from *England* at a Medium, are nearly 473800*l.* per *An.* and chiefly consist of the following Articles of Value annex'd, viz.

	<i>l.</i>
Bark - - - -	12500
Books - - - -	7800
Bottles - - - -	3400
Candle Wick - - - -	640
	Wool

		£
Wool-Cards	- - -	800
Coals	- - -	30000
Coffee	- - -	6176
Wheat and Barley	- - -	30000
Drapery	- - -	23679
Drugs	- - -	3000
Allum	- - -	1200
Cochineel	- - -	2800
Indico	- - -	4200
Log-Wood	- - -	2200
Iron and Ware	- - -	9000
Steel	- - -	1000
Lead	- - -	6600
Cambricks	- - -	3000
Hollands	- - -	2000
Lawns	- - -	1000
Muslins	- - -	18197
Flower	- - -	4000
Millenary Ware	- - -	2000
Calicoes	- - -	1000
Salt and Rock	- - -	10000
Silk	Manufacture	23000
	Raw	18000
	Thrown-undyed	12900
Pewter and Tin	- - -	2700
Whale Bone	- - -	2100
Wood and Ware	- - -	3500
Cotton and Yarn	- - -	800
Grogram Yarn	- - -	1900
Salt Petre	- - -	2000
Groceries of Fruits and Spice	- - -	10700
Small Parcells	- - -	4400
Battery and Brass Shruff	- - -	330
Cheese	- - -	560
Camblets	- - -	140
Copper-Plates	- - -	500
Red-Wood	- - -	4880
		Earthen-

	l.
Earthen-Ware	4400
Herrings	3600
Fustians	4080
Glass and Ware	5000
Suggars	47000
Gold and Silver Thread and Lace	5350
Hops	40680
Slates	700
Snuff	2300
Stockings	500
Pitch and Tar	2000
Cyder	2500
Tea	12260
Tobacco	59529
Toys	1800
Fanns	860
Gloves	670
Paper	1000
Hats	600
Garden Seeds	800
Hemp	3000
Apples	150

Total of Imports from *England*. 473375

THESE with some other small Articles and the Fractions of these make up the Medium as above: Of which there is of their own Produce and Manufactures 248439*l.* from the *American Colonies* and by the *East-India Company* 167536*l.* and by the *Dutch, Flemish, Baltick and Mediterranean Trades* 57400*l.* there is about 7800 Value of Tobacco imported by way of *Scotland*; but being all from the *English Plantations* I have plac'd the whole here.

THUS stands the Trade between *England* and *Ireland*; by which it plainly appears that all to a trifle, which we Export to them, are either of the greatest Use, and an immense Gain to them by encreasing their

their Trade and Commerce abroad, and employing a great Number of industrious Poor at home, or saved from Foreigners by whom they must otherwise necessarily be supply'd: Consequently this is an Addition of Power and Wealth to the *Brittish* Dominions. The Goods we import from thence, are either a redundancy of their Produce and Manufactures, which employs and maintains a great Number of industrious Farmers and Manufacturers; or such Colony and *East-India* Goods as employ a great Number of their largest and best Ships, which consequently promotes Navigation and Seamen, and employs a great many Hands in their Colonies, who in Return take off great Quantities of their richest and best Manufactures.

I shall next consider the State of our Trade with *Scotland* and *Ile of Man*, and annex an Abstract of our Exports, Imports and Ballance, with that Part of *Britain* for the like Term of eight Years, viz.

Years	Exports.			Imports			Contra-Ballance.		
	<i>L.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1719	13690	19	0	37868	19	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	24178	0	3 $\frac{1}{4}$
1720	10352	4	4	27706	18	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	17354	12	3 $\frac{3}{4}$
1721	11256	15	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	29151	10	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	17894	15	8 $\frac{1}{4}$
1722	14398	2	9 $\frac{1}{4}$	27468	14	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	13070	12	1 $\frac{1}{4}$
1723	23578	5	8	33497	2	4 $\frac{1}{4}$	9918	16	8 $\frac{1}{4}$
1724	21250	0	3	31003	0	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	9752	19	10 $\frac{1}{4}$
1725	10023	12	4	38938	0	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	28914	7	11 $\frac{3}{4}$
1726	9384	2	0 $\frac{1}{4}$	29762	13	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	20378	11	2
Tot.	113934	1	7 $\frac{1}{4}$	255396	19	6	141462	17	10 $\frac{1}{4}$
Med.	14241	15	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	31924	12	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	17682	17	2 $\frac{3}{4}$
				H					Our

Our Exports to *Scotland* and *Isle of Man* consist of

	£
Oatmeal about	6000
Other Grain	600
Beef and Kine	1000
Horses	1800
Hides	500
Butter, Cheese, Soap, Linnen, and Mutton	800
Small Parcels	1200
Total	11900

Some other small Articles with Wine and Brandy make up the Medium.

Our Imports from thence consist of

	£
Coals about	11900
Tobacco	7800
Bark	1400
Brandy	840
Barley and Malt	880
Groceries	1000
Linnen and Kenting	3500
Wine	1400
Timber	2400
Linnen-Yarn	150
Small Parcels	290
Herrings	140
Total	31700

Some other trifling Articles make up the Medium.

THE Importations from *North-Britain* and *Isle of Man* vary but little, consisting chiefly of Coals and Tobacco;

Tobacco; for which our Demands are pretty constant, and nearly equal. Our Export being chiefly of Oat-meal, rises or falls as our Harvests are plentiful or otherwise. Upon this Trade there is occasion for very little Animadversion, it being very small and to be understood at first View. By deducting our small Ballance with *England*, from our Contra-Ballance with *Scotland*; we lose by *Britain* not including their Colonies 17652 *l.* 11 *s.* 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* I am oblig'd to state our Trade with the *British* Colonies in *America*, as an Appendage of *Britain*; our Imports from thence being all accounted for in our Importations from *Britain*, where they must all be first enter'd before they can be admitted into *Ireland*, except Lumber and Grain not being Bond Goods, which I presume might be allow'd to be landed here.

Here follows an Abstract of our *American* Exports, for the same Years with those of the last Abstract, viz.

Years				Our Exports to <i>America</i> consist of	
	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>		<i>l.</i>
1719	77190	08	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	Beef about	61500
1720	88980	18	9	Butter	10000
1721	68404	3	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	Pork	8600
1722	74344	9	6 $\frac{3}{4}$	Linnen	3500
1723	82806	6	9 $\frac{3}{8}$	Fish	8890
1724	96825	8	10	Bread	1300
1725	103998	2	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	Cheese and Candles	1000
1726	110313	19	7 $\frac{1}{4}$		
Total	702863	17	9 $\frac{3}{8}$	Total	86790

The Medium of which is
our annual Ballance, viz.
87857 *l.* 19 *s.* 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ *d.*

Which with some other
small Articles make up
the Medium,

Our Imports from *America* being already accounted for; the Contra-Ballance from *Britain* alone must be deducted from the *American*: The Ballance from *Britain* in our Favour, including the Colonies, will then amount to 70205*l.* 8 *1*³/₄.

Thus stands our Trade at present with *Great-Britain* and their Colonies, and without farther Animadversion it might be imagin'd that they were Losers by their Trade and Intercourse with us: But when this Ballance comes to be substracted from the Draughts upon us by those who have Estates, Employments or Pensions, and reside in *Britain*; by others who go there to spend, or for Education, and by the Troops we pay abroad; which as computed before, amounted to 486000*l.* then *Britain* will be a Gainer by *Ireland* 415794*l.* 11*s.* 10³/₄*d.* if to this be added the Monopoly of Wool, Woollen, and worsted Yarn; of which we send annually to *England* 227049 Stone, at 16 Pound to the Stone, (the computed Price at a Medium of Wool and Yarn is 10*s.* 4*d.* per Stone, and the least Profit upon that when Manufactured is computed at 2*l.* 19*s.* 8*d.* for a Stone of Wool Manufactured without Dying, is at least worth 3*l.* 10*s.* 0*d.* especially what we send over, that being the choicest and best we have) then they will gain by our Wool 678573*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.* this is the lowest Computation can be made upon their Profit, by our Wool; for as it is computed by others it rises considerably higher, as thus; a Pound of Wool in *England* is valued at 12*d.* and our Wool and Yarn being of the best Sort may be worth 14*d.* *Irish* at least; now Mr. King's Computation is, that the Wool is the Fourth of the Value of it when Manufactured; if so, a Stone of Wool Manufactured is worth 3*l.* 14*s.* 8*d.* and the Profit from *Ireland* to *England* would then amount to 730340*l.* 19*s.* 0*d.* Another ingenious Gentleman who wrote upon the Trade of *Ireland* in 1687 says, three Pounds worth
of

of Wool and Oyl when Manufactur'd into white Cloths is worth 13 *l.* at this Rate the Gain to *Britain* upon our Wool, computing such as we send worth 14 *d.* *Irish* there, would be 916710 *l.* 6 *s.* 9 *d.* this Computation being made of white Cloths as Sold in *England*, before they are dyed and exported; the Profit upon Exportation after dying is to be added; which, if I should say amounts to one half more, I believe I should be within the Truth: So that the Computation I have given, is very much within Bounds.

I CAN'T but observe here how apt People are to err in Calculations, when they have not Facts to build upon. The Author of the *Atlas Maritimus et Commercialis* affirms, that 40000 Packs of Woollen Yarn are sent from hence to *England* in a Season, This he computes at 240 *l.* per Pack or 15 Stone to the Pack, which would thus amount to 600000 Stone of Woollen Yarn sent to them annually, besides the Wool; whereas what we send is but 103459 Stone, not much above one Sixth Part. This we are sure is Fact; since it can't be suppos'd we run in any to *England*, whatever is done elsewhere: But he, like others, at random runs away with the mistaken Notion that the *Irish* Trade is prejudicial to *England*, and gives this vast Importation of Woollen Yarn as an Instance, to shew how much is taken away from the Spinners there; which by a wrong Calculation of just $\frac{1}{2}$, he says at 3 *d.* per Pound spinning amounts to 240000 *l.* being as he says, at 6 *l.* per Pack, which upon 40000 Packs is the above Sum; whereas at 240 *l.* per Pack, which he lays down as the weight, and at 3 *d.* per Pound spinning, it is but 3 *l.* per Pack, and consequently but 120000 *l.* gain to us by his Account: But there being really no more than 103459 Stone exported, at 3 *d.* per Pound; the Profit to *Ireland* amounts to no more than 20691 *l.* 16 *s.* 0 *d.* a small Sum to grudge to the Poor of *Ireland*, when such an
immense

immense Gain is made by our Wool and Yarn. In another Book lately publish'd; intitled, *a Plan of the English Commerce*, and probably wrote by the same Person, since his Calculations are equally wide; in our Linnens he computes we send to *England* two Millions of Yards, whereas we sent there in 1726, 3265480 Yards; In Wool and Yarn he computes we send 100000 Packs which at 15 Stone to the Pack, would amount to 1500000, instead of 227049 the true Number sent from thence, which does not much exceed $\frac{1}{7}$ of his Computation; but enough of this Digression.

THE Profit *England* gains upon other Articles being no Monopoly, I make no Observations upon it but this; That the Linnen and Linnen-Yarn as it is improv'd there by working and stamping, since we can't Export it strip'd or stain'd with Colours, or with any other Mixture, is so far a Monopoly; and since they would otherwise take it from Foreigners, it is so much sav'd as I said before, and contributes to the Power and Wealth of *Britain* by enabling us to take so many more of their rich Manufactures,

TO the two Articles already mention'd, may be added the Freight and Employment given to *British* Shipping; the Tunnage of which at a Medium of three Years amounts to 155738 $\frac{1}{2}$; which at 1*l.* 10*s.* per Tun Freight, is 233608 $\frac{1}{2}$. This, considering how many are employ'd in the *American* Trade, I can't think without Bounds: For the Tunnage in the Coal Trade does not much exceed; being at a Medium 61081 Tuns, about one sixth of which may be computed to be *Irish*; so the *British* Tunnage employ'd will not exceed 50901; there would then be about 104700 Tun of their Shipping, employ'd upon other Freights; and the Colliers being suppos'd at least to make 10*s.* per Tun Freight; this would raise the Freight upon others, to about 1*l.* 19*s.* 8*d.* per Tun, which I suppose not much to exceed the Truth.

Truth. Since also a great Quantity of our Goods, is sent abroad by Commission from *England*, they have the Benefit of the Sale of these Goods in Foreign Markets.

The Benefit then accruing to *Britain* from *Ireland* will appear thus,

Money spent in <i>England</i> over and above the Ballance subtracted as before, and by Payments of Troops abroad	415794	11	10	$\frac{3}{4}$
By the Monopoly of <i>Irish</i> Wool and Yarn	678573	15	6	
By Freight of <i>British</i> Shipping,	233608			
Total <i>Irish</i> Money	1327976	7	4	$\frac{3}{4}$

Which amounts to in *English* Money about } 1225730

BUT least it might be thought that 30 s. per Tun is more than the *English* gain by the Freight of Shipping; I shall deduct 10 s. per Tun from the Freight, which comes to 77869 l. 6 s. 8 d. and then they will be Gainers by the Trade and Rents of *Ireland* 1250107 l. 0 s. 8 d. *Irish* Money.

To this may be added the Profit they make upon the *Irish* Linnens that they stamp or stain, which at 12 d. per Yard exported, amounts at a Medium to the Value of 177000 l. upon this they make 10 d. per Yard at least Profit when stain'd or stamp'd, their Gain upon it then is,

147500 0 0

The

The Linnen Yarn, at a Medium exported at 12d. per Pound, amounts to about 90000 l. and the Profit upon it Manufactur'd being at least 150 per Cent, when sold in the *English* Market, without computing the Profit when exported from thence, comes to

l.	s.	d.
135000	0	0

Their Profit upon Skins, Oar, Tallow, Kelp, &c. when manufactur'd, may be reasonably suppos'd double of the Value when exported from *Ireland*; which being above 55000 their Profit may be computed the same, viz.

l.	s.	d.
55000	0	0

As all this is neat Gain above the Value of the Goods we export to *Britain* (and the profitable Goods we send to them, upon which the above Profit is made, amount to 440000 l.) with which we pay for the *British* Commodities imported to us, we may add at least so much more to the Gain *Britain* makes of *Ireland*; since if there was no such Kingdom they would want a vent for so many of their profitable Exports, no other Kingdom having a demand for them; by this their Profit is from *Ireland* at least

l.	s.	d.
440000	0	0

This

This being added to the foregoing Sum of 1250107*l.* 0 8*d.* then the total Benefit *Britain* reaps from the Neighbourhood, Trade and Commerce of *Ireland*, (in which is not included the Profit made upon our Goods, when exported by *Britain* to Forreign Countries) amounts to

<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
2027607	0	8

To this also may be added the great Advantage arising to *Britain*, in their Transactions with foreign Princes and States, by having 12000 *Veteran* Troops maintain'd in *Ireland*, without any Expence or Trouble, ready to assist them upon any Emergency, either at home or abroad; the Pay of which amounts to 362668*l.* 11*s.* 3½*d.* as also the Benefit they have in providing for many of their Cadets, or younger Children, by the beneficial Livings and Employments here. If such and so many are the Advantages which *Britain* Reaps from the Neighbourhood of *Ireland*, by their Rents, Wooll and Trade, How grossly ignorant must those be, who maintain it, would be better for *Britain* that *Ireland* was sunk, or not to have had it in their Neighbourhood. This Set of People are fill'd with a Notion, that it has been a perpetual Charge and Expence to *England*, and a drain of their Men and Money, by the frequent Rebellions of the *Irish*; whereas it is manifest except the Conquest by *Henry* the II*d.* and the Armies brought over by King *John* and *Richard* the II*d.* *Ireland* was no Expence to them from the first Landing of the *English* under *Strongbow*, until the latter end of Queen *Elizabeth's* Reign, but was serviceable in several of their Wars with *France* and *Scotland*; and during that whole Time they gain'd by the Rents and Trade

Trade of *Ireland*. And tho' the Crown of *England*, in the latter End of Queen *Elizabeth's* Reign by her, Parsimony, and after the *Irish* Rebellion in 1641, was at a considerable Expence, yet the Body of the People of *England* gain'd vastly more by the *Irish* Rents and Trade, than the Money expended and sent over to pay the Troops that reduced the Rebels here: as to the late Reduction of *Ireland* after 1688, tho' for three Campaigns it was very expensive to *England*, yet from the Year 1660 to that Time, they reap'd by the Rents, &c. of *Ireland* three times the Sum which was expended by them upon the last Reduction; and since that time until now, they may justly acknowledge they have gain'd a Million and $\frac{1}{2}$ annually by *Ireland*, in all about 39 Millions *sterl.* All which would have been lost to them, had there been no such Country, or had it been in the Hands of Foreigners.

It is plain then that *Ireland* instead of being a Charge to *Britain*, is of the greatest Benefit, and may be term'd the choicest Jewel and Acquisition of the Crown and People of *England*: a Country whilst in the Hands of Protestants of *British* Extraction, protected and look'd upon with a favourable Eye by them, in the Possession of their Properties, Rights, and Privileges, consistent with the good of its Mother Country, that will be of the greatest Moment to them, in contributing to support the Honour and Dignity of the Crown, and the Power, Wealth and Naval Strength of *Britain*. We will always, when well treated, with chearful and willing Hearts spend, among them, the surpluse of our Rents and Balance gain'd by Trade, as a tribute due to our Protector and elder Brother. We will by our Industry and Labours provide them with many Necessaries to carry on their Trade, and for their home Consumption, which they must now necessarily have from Foreigners: By this means we would have Returns

to give them, for the many and choice Commodities we take from them. In this Commerce they are liable to no Interruption from the Chicane of Foreign Princes and States: And what the poor industrious Inhabitants of *Ireland* gain that way, is certainly by other Channels poured back into *Britain* as has been shewn already; whereas whatever is taken from Foreigners which *Ireland* can supply them with, of equal Goodness and Cheapness, is plainly encreasing and employing the People of a foreign Prince instead of those under the *British* Government, and whatever they gain by that Trade centers with themselves and has no other Channels by which it returns to *Britain*.

By this we may see the Falsity of Dr. *Davenant's* Argument, when we were depriv'd of the Benefit of the woollen Manufacture here, he reasons against setting up the Linnen and Hempen Manufactures in *Ireland*; alledging, if we supply'd *England* with Linnens, the *Hamburg* Trade would be lost in great Measure by their having no sufficient Returns to make to them for the Goods they took from *England*, their Linnens being the only Returns they could make. Now it is plain from this way of Reasoning, that he must mean that either that Trade must always be against *Britain* upon the Ballance, or that they could not expect to Trade with them if they receiv'd a Ballance from *Hamburg*; and consequently that Trade, as then carried on, was of no Benefit to *Britain*; for if *England* consumed at home as many *Hamburg* Linnens or more than the Value of the Goods carried there, then we were either barely Savers or lost by that Trade, and *Hamburg* must have a Ballance in return from *England*, which would not be poured back again any other way as it would from *Ireland*; thus the Benefit would redound to *Hamburg* instead of *England*, and the foreign Poor be employ'd instead of those under our Government; whereas by the estab-

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 blish'd Maxims of Trade, a wise and prudent Nation should endeavour to procure fewer Importations than Exportations, that a Ballance in Cash might be brought into it. But tho' this lessening of the Vent of *Hamburgh* Linnens was of Consequence when in distinction with setting up the Linnen Manufacture in *Ireland*, yet it was not once mention'd when in competition with the *East India* Callicoes and Muslins, which he owns lessen'd as well as lower'd the *Hamburgh* Linnens; but the common prevailing opinion of *Ireland's* being a dangerous Rival to *England* in Trade, and a perpetual Expence, made all Objections against it go down easily, which at other Times would not have been advanc'd.

Thus having plainly shewn of what Consequence *Ireland* is to *Britain*, whilst encreasing in Wealth and Numbers, and protected in the Enjoyment of our Religious and Civil Liberties; I shall here, more fully to convince those in *Britain*, who have run away with a contrary Notion, shew the Danger they must be in from *Ireland*, and the Expence they must necessarily be at, in case at any time hereafter such dangerous Politicks should prevail there, as to foment Jealousies and Misunderstandings between us, or oppress us in our Taxes and Trade, to make us poor and dispirited. By such Methods our numerous Poor must encrease, for Want of Money and Trade to employ them, and become a Burthen to the remainder; the Value and Rents of Lands must fall, and the whole Community be turbulent and uneasy, wishing for any Change to alter their Condition; the Returns to *Britain* would annually lessen, as also our Demand for their Goods by having no sufficient Returns to make them; by our Indolence and Dispiritedness our Revenue would decrease, and yet the Taxes seem more burthensome by the People's becoming poorer and the Numbers less: We would not then be able to keep up the Establishment,

ment, and yet a greater Force would be requisite to keep us in Subjection. Thus we should become a perpetual Charge to *England*, or otherwise be oppress'd with greater Taxes than our Circumstances could bear, and be so weak and dispirited, as not to be either capable or willing to defend our selves against a Foreign Enemy were we invaded, or so turbulent as to be apt to join with any who should invade us; or in case any future Prince should ever incline to be arbitrary in *Britain*, the Army which would be deem'd necessary to keep *Ireland* in Subjection, would be the Means made use of to bring it about. These would be the necessary Consequences upon following such unhappy Maxims in Politicks; how far different from the present Harmony! which I hope by the Disposition of those in Power will daily increase; and all the Favours they shew us in concurring with and assisting us in the Improvement of *Ireland*, and enabling us to become more wealthy and easy, we will gratefully repay by the Millions we will throw in upon them from the Surplusage of our Industry at home and Commerce abroad. This I am confident in Time will increase the Naval Power and Wealth of *Britain* to that Degree, by the Increase of its Colonies and Trade abroad, and by the Protection of its Fleets, that they will think it convenient to enlarge the Bottom at home and incorporate us with them, there being Trade and Commerce abroad sufficient to employ and maintain all the Hands in *Britain* and *Ireland* were they double what they are. As *London* is now opulent and rich by being the Seat of Empire, and Residence of the Court, where all the Men of Fortune and greatest Expence do generally reside; so upon such an Union, *Britain* as being the Seat of Empire, would still almost engross all the Wealth perpetually flowing from the distant Members and Colonies, as from the distant Counties now into *London*. This is demonstrably certain,

certain, that upon an Union with *England* and Inlargement of the Trade of *Ireland*, all the acquired Wealth that *Ireland* would have from a constant and regular Employment of their industrious Poor, would be pour'd into *England* by the Rich; and *Ireland* could never be richer or have more Money, than what would be sufficient to employ the Poor and circulate their Trade: For as the Blood in the natural Body circulates through the Heart in greater Quantity and with greater Velocity than through the Extreams, so all the Wealth of a Nation through the Capital and Centre of Empire and Trade.

Thus should *Ireland* encrease upon an Union in their Numbers and Industry, and acquire two Millions from abroad more than was sufficient for their home Consumption, at least $\frac{1}{3}$ of this would be carry'd into *Britain* by various and many Channels. It can then only proceed from a narrow and selfish Way of thinking, that *Ireland* can ever be suppos'd to rival *England* in Trade, whilst a Member of their Empire. Were it in the Hands of a Foreign Nation, or had it Extent and Numbers sufficient to be a State of it self, it would then be a dangerous Rival; But the last of these is impossible from its Situation and little Extent, and the first can never happen whilst the *British* Protestant Interest prevails in *Ireland*, and we are protected and regarded as their Brethren and Friends: nothing but Violence and Oppression can ever give *Ireland* the least Tendency that Way, which I have shewn can never happen while Reason prevails in the *British* Government. What Reason can then be given for not admitting *Ireland* into a stricter Union and greater Privileges in Trade, but would have equally held against the admitting of *Scotland* and *Wales*: and yet we find that *London*, in being the Metropolis, reaps all the Benefit and acquir'd Wealth of those distant Members, as it did before of the *Northern* and *Western* Counties of *England*:

land: It would be accounted a very narrow and limited way of thinking, and highly prejudicial to the Wealth and Power of the Publick, to allow that a few Merchants should monopolize a Trade, and deprive others of it, who being admitted, would add vastly to the Wealth and Power of the whole Community: or should the City of *London* say, by depriving the Outports of Trade, the City would grow immensely rich and all their Poor be employ'd, and they would gain more than now, when Trade is dispers'd in so many Parts of the Kingdom, would that be esteem'd good Reasoning? when the Outports could shew, that by their being admitted, greater Numbers would be maintain'd and employ'd, and a greater Wealth acquir'd annually to the Publick, tho' it would be dispers'd among more Hands, and some particular Persons would not reap so great a Benefit as when confin'd to themselves: Yet is it not from a parallel way of Reasoning, that *Ireland* is depriv'd of an Union with *Britain*, and of having several Privileges of Trade allow'd them, which they could shew would add vastly to the Power and Wealth of the *British* Empire in general? Were we admitted into the same Privileges of Trade and incorporated with them, would we not be liable to the same Taxes with *England*? which we could bear in proportion as the distant Counties in *England* do, and the Enlargement of our Trade would procure us a Fund to bear it. Would not that ease the Publick in *England*, and make us more formidable abroad? Would not the Encrease of our Riches and Numbers upon it, procure us greater Privileges in our Foreign Traffick, and enlarge our Commerce as we enlarg'd our Foundation at home, so that we should have full Employment? are we not of the same Religion and Lineage, and entitled to have these Privileges, since by them we would encrease the Riches, Power, and Security of
Britain?

Britain? No unprejudic'd Man who has the real Security and Strength of the *British* Empire at Heart; but must own that the encouraging *Ireland* in all the Improvements it is capable of, by adding to its Trade and Wealth, and uniting its Affections to *Britain*, is doing the greatest Service to the Publick; and the closer such Union is made, and the more powerful we grow in *Ireland*, just so much the more is added to the Security, Wealth, Power, and Fame of *Britain*.

I HOPE it won't be judg'd improper here a little to observe the Proportion our Trade bears to the extended Commerce of *Britain*; which will also shew how much we contribute to them upon their general Ballance, and the Proportion of their Shipping we employ in our Trade.

THE Exports of *England* upon their whole Trade in 1710, amounted to 6690828*l.* 15*s.* 2½; their Ballance then was 2389872*l.* 9*s.* 9d. 11⁄16; in 1715 their Exports were 7379409*l.* 3*s.* and Ballance 2256253*l.* 18*s.* 8d. 1. If we suppose they have encreased since to 8000000*l.* and the Ballance to 2500000*l.* which would be a considerable Addition to the Trade and Wealth of *Britain*; near ⅔ as much, if not ¾ is gain'd by the Rents, Trade, Wooll, and Fraights of *Ireland*.

THE Tunnage of Shipping employ'd in *England*, at a Medium of 6 Years ending *Christmas* 1727, amounts to 859305; the Tunnage of the Trade of *Ireland* to 181901; which is to the *English* as about 1 to 4.7 the *British* Tunnage employ'd in *Ireland* is 155378½; so the Proportion we employ of *British* Shipping, is to their whole Tunnage as 1 to 5.4; it may also be observ'd, that the Total of our Exports is to theirs, as 1 to 7.3; and our Imports as 1 to 6; but their Ballance exceeds ours as 14 to 1; without taking Notice of the Draughts upon us otherwise.

THUS

Thus stands at present our Trade with Britain and their Colonies. 'Tis highly necessary for us to consider how we may increase our Exports and lessen our Imports, that we may not sink through the vast Draughts upon us from thence. It is plain since the Court must be there, all the Savings we can have in our Trade with them, and Superlucration by the Trade with our Foreign Neighbours, will be spent there. The Great, the Rich, the Gay and Young who are easy in their Circumstances, will always crowd to the Circle of Pleasure. However that those, who have a prudent Regard for the Welfare of their Country, may know in what Imports we may save to best Advantage, I shall insert some of the most material, viz

Bottles	3400
Grain,	30000
Drapery	23679
Earthen-Ware	4400
Herrings	3600
Fustians	4080
Glass Ware	5000
Gold and Silver Thread and Lace,	5350
Hops	40680
Iron Ware,	9000
Cambricks	3000
Hollands	2000
Lawns	1000
Muslins	18197
Calicoes	1000
Flower	4000
Millenary Ware	2000
Silk Manufacture,	23600
Whale Bone	2100
Cyder	2500
Total,	188586

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IN some of these Articles we might save all, but upon the whole we might reasonably save $\frac{2}{3}$ amounting to 125724*l*.

THE Monopoly of Wool and Woollen-Yarn has been the greatest occasion of Complaint in *Ireland*, of Hardship laid upon it by *England's* ingrossing so valuable a Branch of Trade to its self. This the *English* claim as due to them, upon Account of the Charges from Time to Time they have been at in reducing the Natives of *Ireland*, as also in protecting and restoring the *British* Interest, when outed or disturbed by the frequent Rebellions of the *Irish*. On the other side we reply, that the Hardship is laid equally upon the Conquerors and conquer'd, without regard to their own Off-spring, and of those that bore the brunt of the War. Also by being confin'd to one Market, the Profit made by our Sheep is too small, we being only allow'd to spin it at the lowest Wages possible: For by computing the Proportion of Wool and Yarn exported, the whole does not exceed at a Medium 10*s*. 4*d*. per Stone; which certainly must destroy our Sheep-walks, and put us upon other ways of employing and improving our Lands. This Difficulty I would willingly consider as a Friend to the *British* Commerce, without any View of its being a Hardship to *Ireland*, since in my Opinion they have given us a full Equivalent for it, in the Manufacture of Linnen and Hemp; in which they have so much encourag'd us, that I hope they will in a little Time be fully supply'd from us, together with what they make in *Britain*, and by that Means save from Foreigners 800000*l*. at least, if not a Million, in Linnens they formerly had from them before the rise of our Manufacture. I believe in this Computation, I am within Bounds; for Dr. *Davenant* allows that in 1703, the *Dutch* imported Linnens into *England* to the Value of 213701*l*. 19*s*. 11*d*. and says that by the Report made to the late King *William* in 1697,

1697, the *French* imported Linnens to the Value of 500700*l.* By a Computation made in *France* in 1676, and laid before the King of *France*, they computed 400000*l.* gain'd by Linnens sent by them annually into *England*; if to this be added the great Quantity of *Hamburg* Linnens imported, which is the bulk of the Linnens sold in *England*, the whole cannot be less than a Million *sterl.* Whilst they continue then to encourage us so far, as to supply them, and preserve so much Money in the Dominions of *Britain*, by giving us the Preference to Foreigners; we ought willingly to acquiesce in the Monopoly of Wool. However as the *Irish* Wool is now disposed of, I shall consider whether it is so beneficial an Article to *Britain* as it might be.

By their own Observations in Trade they know, that where high Duties or Prohibitions are laid upon any Species of Goods, either Exported or Imported, there a smuggling and running Trade will be carry'd on; whilst there are Men in the World who will Risque any Thing for Profit, it is unavoidable: They must hence conclude, that in *Ireland* such Persons finding a better Price in *France* and *Holland* for their Wool than in *England*, do carry on such a stolen Trade, in spite of all the Care taken to prevent it: If this is Fact, it ought to be carefully weigh'd whether the giving so material an Article as *Irish* Wool to Foreigners in their Manufactures, and that in considerable Quantities be not more prejudicial to the Sale of *English* Woollen Manufactures abroad, than prohibiting *Ireland* from sending over to *Britain* any of our Wool manufactur'd, permitting only our Wool and Woollen-Yarn, can at present be of Benefit to them.

As the Case now stands, the Consequence will unavoidably be this, either this smuggling prejudicial Trade will be carry'd on to the sole Advantage of Foreigners, and lessening the Sale and Consumption

of our *British* Manufacture abroad, or in Case a stop could be put to it, the Sheep-walks and Flocks of Sheep in *Ireland* would be lessen'd, and in a little Time no more would be kept than were sufficient to supply the Markets with Flesh, and what Wool would be wanting to make up Cloaths for our home Consumption. This last I am apt to believe will soon be the Case, since our Exports of Wool and Yarn to *England* are considerably lessen'd. By looking back some time ago, I find in 1687 our Export of Wool to *Britain* amounted to 285125 small Stones; in 1698, to 377520 $\frac{3}{4}$; and at a Medium of last eight Years to *Lady-day* 1728, it was only 227049, which is above 58000 Stone less than in 1687, and 148000 nearly less than in 1698, tho' our woollen Manufacture was not prohibited 'till the Year following. Would it not then be highly proper for the Legislature in *Britain* to consider, as the Case now stands, whether 'tis better to be in this Dilemma, or to remove it quite? that is, whether we should by carrying on the smuggling Trade or lessening our Sheep-walks, give them no more Wool on the one Hand, or on the other, be put upon such a footing as to work our Wool to advantage, and employ our poor in *Ireland*, whilst at the same time *England* should reap the same advantage by our Manufactures as *France* now does by our Wool. On either side of the Dilemma *England* is a great Loser. For suppose 100000 Stone of Wool is convey'd from *Ireland* to *France* or *Holland* annually, it is plain (that in such foreign Markets as they supply by it) at 4*l.* per Stone Manufactur'd, which is now considerably within the Profit they make; *England* loses 400000*l.* which they might have sav'd had they got the Wool: if that were stop'd and our Sheep-walks reduc'd by reason of the small Profit we could honestly make by our Sheep, then the Profit *England* now makes by Manufacturing our Wool would be lost, which I
have

have already shewn amounts to 678573*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.* if *England* either by our giving it too much Wool, or by our supplying Foreigners, has more Manufactures upon Hand, than it can get vent for abroad, 'tis undoubtedly its Interest that our Flocks of Sheep should be lessened, and our Lands be put to a better use; but if this be not the Case, and the *English* have a sufficient vent, and want Wool to supply the World with their Manufactures, which considering the increase of our own and the *Portuguese* Colonies, as well as of other Nations, by a Probability of a lasting Peace, and by the concurring Evidence of those who write upon the *English* Commerce, seems to be evident; for 'tis affirm'd there is no Wool left upon the Farmers Hands in *England*, and the Exports of the *English* woollen Manufactures at a Medium of last four Years, exceeded their Exportations about 16 or 18 Years ago about 200000*l.* per Annum. If these be Facts, the principal Thing to be consider'd is, whether a way may'nt be found for *Britain* to gain as much as what it now does by *Irish* Wool, and perhaps considerably more, by increasing our Sheep-walks, at the same Time that *Ireland* may gain that Proportion for its Poor which is now given to Foreigners by running of Wool abroad. This I think not difficult to accomplish: It would at once ease us in *Ireland* of the seeming Hardship put upon us by the Monopoly of our Wool, and want of Employment for our Poor here; and all the Wealth accruing to *Ireland* by it, would be sav'd from Foreigners and greatly for the Benefit of *Britain*, enabling us to take off more of their valuable Manufactures, and by increasing the Number of such as would go over to reside and spend their Fortunes in *England*, where all our Superlucration by Trade will certainly Center.

LET the actual Prohibition of *Ireland's* exporting any woollen Manufactures to foreign Markets remain

main as now, The Prohibition of sending it to *England* being only by laying on high Duties equal to or exceeding the Value of the Manufactures in most kinds, with a draw back of Part of the Value upon Re-exportation, which is so small, that more remains than any possible Profit that can be made by the Merchant exporting them: So that nothing will bear Exportation but Flannel and Frizes.

Now should the *British* Legislature think it proper to make the draw-back effectual, or to lessen the Duties upon such Sorts as the *French* and *Dutch* export, in which they under-sell the *English* abroad, or of such coarse Cloths as don't interfere with their foreign Markets, by which Means their Poor might be supply'd with coarse Cloaths at home at the cheapest Rate, and their Manufacturers be employ'd more in making the richer and finner Sort for foreign Sale: Or should they think it proper to allow us to Export to *Britain* white Cloths Duty free; so that the Profit made by Dressing and Dying and Exportation would be entirely *English*, and the Benefit of the weaving would be added to our spinning here, and of Course more of our Poor be employ'd: Such Numbers in *Ireland* would exert themselves against the Smugglers, upon obtaining so considerable a Favour, as must entirely put an End to this Clandestine-Trade of running our Wool, so prejudicial to *Britain*, and so much to the Advantage of foreign Princes and States. Thus as more Hands would be employ'd, and the Sale of our Wool become regular and profitable, our Sheep-walks would not be less'n'd, as now they must be by the little Benefit arising from them: But, as I observ'd before, this being chiefly design'd for the Benefit of *Britain*, the Parliament and Merchants there are the best Judges, whether it be for their Interest or not.

THE next particular Trade I am to consider, as distinguish'd in the Custom-House Books, is the *Eastland*,

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given

Years,

1719
1720
1721
1722
1723
1724
1725
1726

Total.
Medi-
um of
8Years
Medi-
um of
5Years

Eastland, which comprehends all the Countries *Northward* of *Holland*, upon the Continent from *Emden* to *Archangel*, the *Sound* and *Baltick* consequently included; an Abstract of which for Eight Years ending *Lady-day* 1727 is here given, viz.

Years,	Exports.			Imports.			Ballance.			Contra Ballance.		
	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1719	81514	9	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	70395	16	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	11118	12	2 $\frac{3}{4}$			
1720	100337		3 $\frac{1}{2}$	61011	8	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	39325	11	7			
1721	80700	1	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	49742	7	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	30957	13	7 $\frac{1}{4}$			
1722	46531	4	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	54292	0	11 $\frac{1}{4}$				7760	16	3
1723	44951	1	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	67000	9	9 $\frac{1}{4}$				22049	7	11 $\frac{3}{4}$
1724	42049	10	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	74300	8	11				32250	18	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
1725	39574	17	5 $\frac{1}{4}$	59400	3	11 $\frac{3}{4}$				19825	6	6 $\frac{1}{4}$
1726	53211	9	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	67193	7	6 $\frac{1}{2}$				13981	17	9
Total.	488869	14	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	503336	4	5 $\frac{1}{4}$	81401	17	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	95868	7	1 $\frac{3}{4}$
Medi- um of 8 Years	61108	14	4 $\frac{1}{4}$	62917	0	6 $\frac{1}{2}$				1808	6	2 $\frac{3}{4}$
Medi- um of 5 Years	45263	12	9 $\frac{2}{5}$	64437	6	5 $\frac{1}{2}$				19173	13	6 $\frac{1}{2}$

Our Exports are made up of

	<i>l.</i>
Beef about	2800
Butter	17000
Grain	1300
Hides { Tan'd	1480
{ Raw	3277
Oatmeal	3800
Calve-Skins	1800
Tallow	1100
Re-exports	5000
Total	37557

The

The Remainder is made up of several small Articles, not material in Trade. Our Imports from thence consist of

Copper Plates about	-	-	-	-	2000
Flax and Seed	-	-	-	-	6000
Sugar	-	-	-	-	1600
Hemp	-	-	-	-	3800
Iron	-	-	-	-	7000
Lamp Black	-	-	-	-	600
Train Oyl	-	-	-	-	700
Tin Plates	-	-	-	-	760
Tar	-	-	-	-	800
Wood	-	-	-	-	35000
Total					58260

The remainder is made up of Linnen-Yarn, Potash, Lattin Wyre, and other small Articles.

IN considering our Trade to these Countries, it may be observ'd, what a great Disproportion there is between the Ballances taken at the Medium of eight Years, and of the last Five; during which last the Ballance was constantly against us, as it was for us the first Three of the Eight: The latter Ballance exceeding the former 17365 *l.* 7 *s.* 4 *d.* our Exports thither have diminish'd above the Value of 16000 *l.* and our Imports increased about 1500 *l.* Our Exports increasing at the same Time to *France*, as may be seen afterwards, shews that either our Trade to *Hamburg* and *Bremen* increas'd for the first three Years (occasion'd by the *French* breaking their Credit with us upon the Alteration of their Coin, and loss of Trade by the *Mississipi* Bubble) or the last four Years Trade took a different Channel, and remov'd to *France*; not I am afraid, from our having better

better Markets there for our Goods; but our Demands for *French* Wines increasing, requir'd greater Exports there to Ballance them.

As this Trade is divided among a great many different Kingdoms and Cities, which in the Custom-House Ledgers are all enter'd under one Head; I can't pretend to state the Ballance with each Nation in the East Country, we trade to separately; but it may appear upon the View of the Particulars of our gross Exports, that little or nothing, except Grain and Oatmeal, goes to *Norway*; tho' the Tar, Timber and Deals imported from thence, and a very little from *Gottenburgh* and the *Baltick*, amount to 35000 *l.* Value.

It may be taken for granted, that the Beef, Butter, Hides, Tallow and Calf-Skins we export, go generally to *Hamburg* and *Bremen*, very little to *Sweden* or the *Baltick*, and nothing to *Denmark*: Our Imports from thence are Copper Plates and Iron, part of which we take from *Sweden* immediately our selves, Tin Plates, Train Oyl, Flax and Hemp; the two last Articles we import in part from *Livonia* and *Couningsburgh*; our *Russian* Trade for Hemp to *Archangel*, having taken a different Channel by *Petersburgh*, upon the late *Czar's* Acquisition of that Port and *Livonia*.

HENCE we may conclude that our Trade to *Hamburg* and *Bremen* is most advantageous to us; from whence we have our Returns chiefly by Bills, and our Goods are carry'd there in our own or *British* Shipping: Whereas our Trade to *Norway* is mostly carry'd on by *Danish* or *Norwegian* Ships, with Returns in our ready Money; which they can do to a greater Profit, by reason of the Largeness of their Ships, and Cheapness of building and sailing them: This Trade tho' highly necessary to us for Want of Timber at home, is a great Drain upon us; and we brought it upon our selves by the vast Destruction

and Havock we made of our Woods; of which we thought we could never see an End, till all were cut down. Yet notwithstanding this Demand, and the annual Expence we are at, few there are who consider the Good of our Posterity or Country in helping it, because they don't immediately reap the full Benefit themselves.

Thus stands at present our Trade with those Countries. Whilst our Demands upon them are so great, we can never expect a Ballance from thence, unless we are able to carry on a Herring Fishery to Advantage: But in Time somewhat may be done by Planting at home, or by being render'd capable to furnish our selves with Timber and other Naval Stores from *America*: yet the Distance of *America* is so great, I am afraid it will never answer the Expence of Freight, whilst the Woods in *Norway* last; unless our Linnens come to have such a Vent there, that upon the Profit of them we could purchase Ships from thence, and bring back Cargoes of Timber; but instead of that, our Exports thither at present, are Protestants, the Manufacturers of our Linnen; and our Imports from thence, Grain, both to our Eternal Reproach.

THE next particular Trade to be consider'd, going *Southwardly*, is *Holland* and *Flanders*; an Abstract of which for 8 Years, I shall here subjoin, ending *Lady-Day* 1727; with the Medium of the Balance taken for those 8 Years, as also for the last 4 Years, when, as in the Trade to the *Eastland*, it here also seem'd to take a different Channel.

Years

Years.	Exports.			Imports.			Ballance.			ContraBallance		
	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1719	140726	11	$\frac{1}{2}$	87957	19	$10\frac{1}{4}$	52768	11	$2\frac{1}{4}$			
1720	113107	3	$9\frac{1}{2}$	71162	14	$7\frac{1}{2}$	41944	9	2			
1721	87032	19	11	51187	3	$4\frac{1}{2}$	35845	16	$6\frac{1}{4}$			
1722	89327	4	1	65624	16	$9\frac{1}{2}$	23702	7	$3\frac{1}{4}$			
1723	60866	7	7	82224	17	$2\frac{1}{4}$				21358	9	$7\frac{1}{4}$
1724	52618	1	$1\frac{1}{2}$	70048	14	$3\frac{1}{4}$				17430	13	$2\frac{1}{4}$
1725	63922	15	$3\frac{1}{4}$	69206	2	$2\frac{1}{4}$				5283	6	11
1726	93713	15	6	84048	6	$2\frac{1}{4}$	9665	9	$3\frac{1}{2}$			
Total.	701314	18	4	581460	14	$7\frac{1}{4}$	163926	13	$5\frac{1}{4}$	44072	9	9
Medi- um of 8	87664	7	$3\frac{1}{2}$	72682	11	$9\frac{29}{32}$	14981	15	$5\frac{15}{32}$			
Medi- um of 4	67780	4	$10\frac{1}{2}$	76381	19	$11\frac{1}{8}$				8601	15	$1\frac{1}{2}$

Our Exports thither chiefly consist of

Beef value about	-	-	5300
Butter	-	-	18400
Feathers	-	-	700
Salmon,	-	-	340
Raw Hides,	-	-	20000
Pork,	-	-	700
Rape Seed,	-	-	900
Tallow	-	-	4000

Total - - - 50340

With several others not material.

This falls short of the Medium of last 4 Years; which is occasion'd by my having taken the Exports from 1724, that Year's Exports being about 15000*l.* below the Medium here taken. Our Imports from thence consist of,

L 2

Bark,

Bark, value about	-	-	2000
Battery	-	-	700
Brass Shruff	-	-	530
Books unbound	-	-	330
Drugs	-	-	1250
Madder	-	-	5128
Other dying Stuffs	-	-	580
Earthen Ware	-	-	1150
Flax	-	-	3000
Groceries	-	-	4600
Gunpowder	-	-	1080
Inkles	-	-	4500
Thread	-	-	1000
Hemp	-	-	2700
Iron	-	-	2500
Bone-Lace	-	-	4200
Cambricks	-	-	1500
Hollands	-	-	3200
Flax-Seed	-	-	8000
Linseed Oyl	-	-	1200
Paper	-	-	1800
Potash,	-	-	1300
Garden Seeds	-	-	600
Silk Manufacture	-	-	4000
Steel	-	-	400
Whalebone	-	-	3100
Rbenish Wine	-	-	1700
Wood and Ware	-	-	2400
Wyre { Iron Lattin Steel }	-	-	1800
Total	-	-	66248

This with other small Parcels make up the Medinm.

By

By comparing these Abstracts with the next I give from *France*, may be found the Reason why the Balance changes in the different Years of this Abstract; for as our Exports to *France* increas'd, those to *Holland* and *Flanders* decreas'd in Proportion. We may observe that our Demands from *Holland* and *Flanders* being generally the same, our Imports from thence don't vary so much as our Exports; they never falling so low as 50000 *l.* or rising so high as 90000 *l.* this with the great Decrease of our Exports, was the Reason of the Balance's being against us at a Medium of the last 4 Years, tho' upon the whole it was in our Favour.

It may also be observ'd that our Exports are made up entirely of the Produce of our Lands without Tillage, except in the two small Articles of Rape-Seed and Salmon; in all the other Articles nothing valuable is taken from us, that either Sea or Land yields to us by the Labour and Industry of the Inhabitants.

THE Goods we import from thence are either such as are rais'd and manufactur'd among themselves, or Returns made, by their Trade, of the Growth of other Countries, which they can afford as cheap, or cheaper than we could import them from the Countries whence they had them; this is owing entirely to the Lowness of Interest, Cheapness of Freight, and the easy Duties upon the Export and Import of their Goods; by which Means that Country becomes the general Magazine of all Commodities beneficial in Trade, and they have such a Variety, that they can at once, sort out a Cargo advantageous to any Country; also their Plenty of Money enables them to lay in Stores, and preserve them at small Expence, when by their general Correspondence they learn that Markets are low and glutted abroad, and to make their Profit when Markets rise again; may often they sell them back again to that very Nation

tion from whence they had them; thus quick Returns and light Gain make a heavy Purse.

WE might save of our Imports from thence by proper Industry at Home, Madder above 5000*l.* to supply our selves, and also to supply *England*, which takes from them to the Value of 20000*l.* annually; Earthen-Ware, Flax, Gun-Powder, Inkles, Thread, Hemp, Lace, Cambrick, Holland, wrought Silks, Paper, Whalebone, and Garden-Seeds, which amount to 35930*l.*

THE next particular Trade that falls regularly in my Way to be observ'd, is that with *France*; Abstracts of this I here give, with a small Ballance seemingly in our Favour, yet when carefully enquir'd into it appears, to be much otherwise.

Years.	Exports.			Imports.			Ballance.		Contra Ballance.		
	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1719	16585	9 16	11½	17959	7 12	1¼			13737	15	2¼
1720	5801	2 12	11	11100	0 15	5¼			52988	2	4¼
1721	12123	7 10	9¼	13290	8 2	3½			11670	11	6¼
1722	12242	6 10	5	11788	1 13	3	4544	17 2			
1723	17677	7 8	27½	15056	3 18	3	26213	9 11½			
1724	21442	2 17	6½	14165	0 9	5¼	7277	2 8¼			
1725	20531	7 7	7	15905	5 5	2¼	4626	2 4¼			
1726	13770	2 10	7½	19395	4 12	6¼			5625	2 1	11½
Total.	120175	6 15	0½	118661	2 8	5¼	14979	2 17 7½	13464	8 11	
Medi- um of 1 Years	15021	9 11	10¾	14832	6 11	0¾½	1893	0 9½¾			
Medi- um of 1 Years	18355	5 0	11½	16130	6 1	4¾	2224	8 19 7½			

Our Exports for 1724, which were by much the greatest in this Abstract, consisted of

				l.
Beef about	-	-	-	50000
Butter	-	-	-	80000
Raw Hides	-	-	-	10000
Tallow	-	-	-	40000
Total	-	-	-	180000

The other Articles of small Value in Trade are not worth inserting.

Our Imports from thence,	l.	s.	d.
Wine at a Medium of 9 Years	83156	5	10½
At a Medium of 4 Years	91658	14	6
Brandy at a Medium of 6 Years	23446	18	6

The rest taken in the Year 1724, viz.

				l.
Playing Cards about	-	-	-	100
Cork	-	-	-	1400
Flints	-	-	-	50
Pruins	-	-	-	1500
Succus Liquor.	-	-	-	1500
Sugar	-	-	-	10000
Iron and Iron Ware	-	-	-	600
Cambricks	-	-	-	2000
Train Oyl	-	-	-	500
Paper	-	-	-	3500
Rozin	-	-	-	1150
Salt	-	-	-	2650
Silk Manufacture	-	-	-	6500
Vinegar	-	-	-	2500
Other Groceries	-	-	-	500
Wood and Ware	-	-	-	2500

Total including the Wine at four
Years Medium and Brandy at
six

{ l. s. d.
150705 13 00

The

The other Articles are not Material.

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
The Import of Wine 1726	109417	17	1½
Brandy for the said Year	30871	13	9
Total	140289	10	10½

HERE you see the Ballance at a Medium of eight and of four Years; as also the increase of our Exports thither from 1720, at which Time they had not overcome their Difficulties occasion'd by the raising their Coin, and their *Mississipi* Bubble. We may also observe that our Imports from thence have risen from that Time, and how the Importation of *French* Wine has increas'd upon us; the Medium of last four Years exceeding that of the last eight, 8502 *l.* 8 *s.* 7½ *d.*

OUR whole Exports for the Year ending *Lady-day* 1727, were 137702 *l.* 10 *s.* 7½ *d.* and the Wine and Brandy imported that Year amounted to 140289 *l.* 10 *s.* 10½ *d.* so in those two Articles, we exceeded the Years Exports 2587 *l.* 0 *s.* 3 *d.* Thus we find our Madnes increasing in drinking *French* Wine; for tho' Part of this was lodg'd in the *Ile of Man* for some Time, yet it was all imported from *France* in less than a Year before. Of the Wine as computed at 20 *l.* per Tun, there were 5470½ Tuns, and 1929½ Tuns of Brandy; in all above 7400 Tuns of Wine and Brandy imported that Year. As the Value of Wine and Brandy re-exported does not exceed 20700 *l.* Wine computed when exported at 40 *l.* per Tun, and Brandy at 2 *s.* 4 *d.* per Gallon (near double the Price as when Imported, being then valued at 1 *s.* 3 *d.*) we spent at home of Wine and Brandy that Year, near to the Value of 130000 *l.* amounting to 6800 Tuns. These are the Observations we may make from the Returns in the Custom-House Books; but I am afraid

afraid we can't depend upon our Exports to *France* from these Returns; for 'tis plain, where no Bonds are given by the Merchants upon their Entries, they may make them for one Kingdom when they go for another, of which the Custom-House can take no Notice; and this is frequently the Case in our Exports to *France*; for which Kingdom the Merchants make their Entries, when they design for *Hamburgh*, *Bremen* or *Holland*, and that for this Reason, there are several Light-Houses in their Way to *Holland*, *Hamburgh*, &c. in the *British* Channel, &c. towards the Maintenance of which all Shipping pay in the first Port they put in at, and are charg'd with so many as they have Benefit in their Voyage; now if it appear by their Cocket that they are bound for these Ports through the Channel, they pay towards the Maintenance of them all; if for *France*, and they are suppos'd to be blown there out of their Way, they pay for no more than they are presum'd to receive Benefit by: Thus the Merchants finding so many Charges upon Trade, and little and uncertain Profit, are tempted to make use of any Shift to save their Money; and by this Means we must be impos'd upon, in our Accounts from the Custom-House, without their being any otherwise capable of setting us right, than by shewing what may be computed from the Reason of the Thing, founded upon some certainty of Facts. The next Thing to be observ'd is, that the Price at which we buy our Wines in *France*, computed at the Medium of 20*l.* per Tun, is too low; if the Quantity of white Wines bore any Proportion to the Claret, their Observation might be just; but as they do not, I can't think but 24*l.* per Tun is nearer the Truth, and still a little within it, the Duty and Prisage not exceeding 13*l.* 5*s.* 0*d.* per Tun, and the Freight within 3*l.* (the Freight home not being 40*s.* or much above 1*l.* 10*s.* per Tun) so that Wine landed in *Ireland*, allowing all Charges upon it, does not at the

20*l.* Value exceed 35*l.* *per* Tun, even allowing Leakage, not above 36*l.* which does not exceed 9*l.* *per* Hogshead; now as the Wine Merchants sell these again from 14 to 20 Pistoles *per* Hogshead, they would have from 50 to *Cent per Cent* Profit upon their Wines, for lying out of their Money two or three Years, Cooperage and Cellarage; an immense Profit! To avoid the Censure of imposing upon us, they pretend our Demand has increas'd the Price in *France*; if so, we may reasonably allow 4*l.* more *per* Tun; so they would import them still under 10*l.* *per* Hogshead landed here, and the Merchants have still 50 or 60 *per Cent* Profit, over and above the Interest of their Money, &c. This would add to our Imports from *France* 20000*l.* upon the Article of Wine alone.

THE great Profit given to the Wine Merchants, by the increase of our Luxury, has tempted many more to follow that Trade; this has also increas'd the Importation of Wine, which to get rid of, they are oblig'd to force a Trade with Taverns and Inn-Keepers, and to give them Presents for their Custom. Thus every Country Town and Village is crowded with Retailers of Wine and Brandy, to the Ruin of the middle and lower Ranks of Men, who frequent them. The Merchants dispose of their Wines ready to perish, at all Risques, to the Country Inn-Keepers upon Trust; they for the like Reason to get them off their Hands, sell the same Way to such as frequent their Houses, who being generally of the extravagant Part of the Kingdom, and such as being in low Circumstances resort thither, to drown their Cares, make not very prompt Payment: These break the Taverns, and the Taverns would do the same to the Merchants, if they did not make up their Loss by selling to the Men of Condition and Fortune at double Price; the same Wines cooper'd up by different Mixtures to nice Palates, under Mock Names of this or 'tother Vintage, Hermitage, Pontack, Chateau

Chateau Margoux, Haut-Brian, &c. all made out of *Vin de Grave*; some cook'd up in the Cellars of *Bordeaux*, the rest here, according to Palates in Vogue; the Merchant importing a chance Hogshead at 600,800 or 1000 Livers *per Tun*, that they may have it to say their Wines cost them to such a Price, and cover their extravagant Profit the more neatly. It may be consider'd, whether to prevent our Destruction by Luxury, Idleness and Debaucheries daily increasing among the middle and lower Ranks of Men; Publick Houses which sell Wine and Brandy should not be limited, and lessen'd in Number, and Instructions given to the Officers of the Excise to require greater Sums for Licence: This would prevent a great many smuggling Houses, and oblige those who took out License, to sell their Wines at a dearer Rate. Thus would several House-Keepers be employ'd in more useful Employments to the Publick, and those who took out License be more fully employ'd. This would also abate the Extravagance of those who ought to be industrious and better employ'd, and would raise our Excise upon our home Produce, and encourage Tillage.

IN considering our Ballance with *France*, we may allow full as much Brandy to be stolen into the Country, or more than all our re-exports amount to; beside Linnens, Silks, and Cambricks from *France*; which will Ballance every Thing we run in our Exports to them. If we consider how much is run into this Kingdom of *French* Lutestrings, we will find it very considerable: Those only us'd for Scarves at Funerals, will rise to a considerable Sum; which I shall here make a Computation of, considerably below the Truth, and yet it will appear no trifling Article. I will suppose only two Persons to die, annually in each Parish, and that ten Scarves are us'd at the Funeral; the whole Number of Funerals would then be 4590, and the Scarves us'd

45900, which if computed but at 5s. per Scarf, or 2s. per Yard, would amount to 11475^{l.} per Ann. in *French* Lutestrings for the Article of Scarves at Funerals. If we consider how many Funerals there are at which many more are given, the Computation will not appear too large. If we consider how many other ways *French* Lutestrings are worn, we may modestly suppose above 20000^{l.} Value of these only come into *Ireland* annually, which are all imported by Stealth, besides many more of different Kinds. In this very Article we might save considerably, if either a disuse was brought about of these at Funerals, or if a Custom should take place that was lately propos'd and begun at *Belfast*, by the *Cambrick* Company, upon the Motion of a worthy Gentleman there Mr. *Smith*; which is to bury with *Holland* Scarves or fine Linnen, according as they would have them more or less Expensive; this would put a considerable Damp upon the Importation of *French* Lutestrings, and by making the *Holland* Scarves of such a breadth as to be useful, they would not be lost to the Publick, and would be a considerable Encouragement to the Linnen Manufacture. But this I hope is now sufficiently establish'd, by being us'd at the Funeral of a late great Man of the first Distinction. It may be said now without Suspicion of Flattery; that it was well judg'd to bury him in Character, as a Friend to his Country and a Benefactor to Multitudes.

THE bringing Sugars from thence to about 10000^{l.} Value, is a considerable Advantage to their Colonies, and a Prejudice to our own. This is entirely owing to the Discouragement we lie under in our Plantation Trade, by being oblig'd to give Bonds to enter our Ships in *Britain*. But as the Remedying this Inconveniency is only in the Power of the *British* Legislature; I shall take some further Notice of it in another Place, and shew that *Britain* and its Colonies equally suffer with *Ireland*, in the rigorous Interpretation

terpretation of that Act of Parliament, contrary to the original Intention of the Law-makers.

AFTER these Allowances let us fix the Ballance, and we shall find the Reason for sending Money and Bills to *France*, and for Exchange being generally against us. Upon the whole I cannot see, notwithstanding the appearing Ballance in our Favour, upon raising after a reasonable Manner the prime Cost of our Wine and Brandy, and giving reasonable Allowances for our Exports thither upon Account of false Entries, and running in of Brandy, Silks, &c. but we must be Losers by our present Trade with *France*, from 30*l.* to 40000 *per Ann.* at least.

LET us next consider the Articles of our Exports to *France*, which consist but of Four any way material, viz. Beef, Butter, Tallow and Hides. Exports, it is true, under our Circumstances, highly necessary, being all perishable except Tallow; but as I have already shewn, the very worst for Profit; there being no Labour but the Butchers and Dairy Maids in them, and few People maintain'd in Proportion to what Agriculture, Gardening or Manufactures would do. On the other Hand to that Country, where imported, they are of the greatest Benefit; for there it must be to feed and give other Necessaries to a Number of People employ'd in Manufactures, or in such Produce of Land, as is much more valuable than breeding and grazing of Cattle. And this is plainly the Case, where we Import them to *France*, *Holland*, *Hamburg* or *America*, and every where, except what is sent to the indolent *Spaniard*, which is only so much as is spent in *Sevil* and *Cales*, or in Victualing out their Galleons; and even there, the only industry of *Spain* is carry'd on in Wines, Oyl, and Silk.

COULD the *French* supply themselves or their Colonies any other way, so cheap, without employing their Lands to a worse Use than at present; we should

should have no vent there for our Provisions: But 'tis plainly the Increase of their Numbers in *Martinico*, *Guadaloupe*, and *Petit Guaves* in *St. Domingo*; where since the Peace of *Utrecht*, they have vastly increas'd their Plantations, and Number of Negroes employ'd in their Sugar Works, Indico, Cotton, Anetto, Cacao and Tobacco, that prevents their being supply'd from the Islands, with as many Provisions as formerly. *Canada* cannot supply them with any Thing considerable: *Mississipi* is yet in its Infancy, and in a Latitude too warm for Salting: Our *American* Colonies have a sufficient Demand to furnish our own Islands; and the *French* having no Trade with them, would lose in going thither the Benefit of their Freight outwards, and consequently their Ships go for the most Part empty to their Islands.

PERE Labat says, a Breast of *Irish* Beef is the greatest Regale in their Islands; this and the increase of their Numbers in *Nants*, *St. Martins*, *Rockel* and *Bourdeaux*, by that and their Wine Trade, is the occasion of the rise of their Demands upon us.

THUS our Exports to them, tho' perishable, are still more necessary for them than for us. We had *Holland*, *Hamburgh* and *America* to go to, when they had not much above; what we now Export to them, which we might have again, or employ our Lands at home to a better Use. But should we prohibit our Exports to *France*, their Islands would be distress'd, or their Lands put to a worse Use: Nay, were we to Import nothing from *France*, but have the Ballance of our Exports in Specie, it would still be Beneficial to them to have our Provisions, for they make three Times more Profit of their Lands in *France* and in their Islands, than they would do, were they to raise Provisions among themselves, Equivalent to the Quantity we send them.

THUS

THUS if we were prudent, or by having Sump-
 tuary Laws, and being less Luxurious in our Wines;
 we might make considerably by the *French Trade*,
 and have a great Ballance in our Favour: *Louis*
D'ors would then come here, as fast as now our
 Guineas and Bills go there. We might save also in
 other Articles, viz. Silks, Cambricks, Hollands,
 Paper, Train Oyl, &c. a considerable Sum, by pro-
 per Application at Home. Thus stands our Trade
 at present in a destructive Way with *France*, when it
 is capable of being made highly Beneficial to us.

THE last in Order, and I may say greatest Branch
 of our Trade with Foreigners, since by it we have
 the greatest Ballance in our Favour, is with *Spain*,
Portugal, and the *Streights*; which take off the great-
 est Part of any Manufactur'd Commodities we Ex-
 port, except Linnen. An Abstract of this for Eight
 Years I here give, as it stands in the Custom-House
 Books, to *Lady-Day 1727*, with the Medium of Ex-
 ports, Imports and Ballance, by which may be seen
 how much we ought to Countenance this Trade.

Years.	Exports.			Imports.			Ballance.		
	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1719	111739	19	4 $\frac{1}{4}$	39670	3	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	72069	16	0 $\frac{3}{4}$
1720	125261	14	7 $\frac{1}{4}$	36678	15	10	88582	18	9 $\frac{1}{4}$
1721	176768	6	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	57963	19	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	118804	6	2
1722	183239	13	0 $\frac{1}{4}$	56363	1	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	126876	11	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
1723	147265	1	11 $\frac{3}{8}$	68153	18	9 $\frac{3}{4}$	79111	3	1 $\frac{5}{8}$
1724	149984	1	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	60959	16	11	89024	4	1 $\frac{1}{4}$
1725	135751	8	8 $\frac{1}{4}$	61584	0	6 $\frac{1}{4}$	74167	8	2
1726	118049	4	5 $\frac{3}{4}$	96839	6	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	21209	17	11 $\frac{1}{4}$
Total.	1148059	9	2 $\frac{7}{8}$	478213	2	11 $\frac{1}{4}$	669846	6	3 $\frac{5}{8}$
Medium of eight Years	143507	8	7 $\frac{5}{64}$	59776	12	10 $\frac{1}{3}$	83730	15	9 $\frac{2}{64}$

By the Ballance struck here, we find we have received more from those Countries than from *France*, *Holland*, and *Flanders* together by 534847*l.* 15*s.* 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* we have a Ballance from no other Countries except *America*; *Britain* and *America* are so blended together by their Importations, that we can't justly distinguish the Ballance. We find our Imports from *Spain*, &c. last Year so much increas'd, that our Ballance from thence in 1726 was inconsiderable, very little exceeding the fourth Part of the Medium.

Our Exports thither are

	<i>l.</i>
Beef about	10000
Butter	35600
Candles	3000
Cheese	1600
Barley	

Barley	-	-	-	9000
Wheat	-	-	-	3000
Hake	-	-	-	2500
Herrings	-	-	-	800
Salmon	-	-	-	8000
Hair	-	-	-	400
Hides	{	Raw	-	4000
		Tann'd	-	50000
Linnen	-	-	-	1300
Pork	-	-	-	2000
Calve-Skins	-	-	-	3000
Starch	-	-	-	400
Tallow	-	-	-	2500
Goods Re-exported	-	-	-	6000
Total				143100

Our Importations from thence are, viz,

Capers about	-	-	-	170
Cork	-	-	-	1860
Dying Stuffs	-	-	-	4000
Sugar and Fruit	-	-	-	6000
Oranges and Lemons	-	-	-	3000
Iron	-	-	-	9400
Oyl	-	-	-	3600
Salt	-	-	-	4600
Silk Manufacture	-	-	-	3000
Raw Silk	-	-	-	430
Thrown Silk undyed	-	-	-	670
Succus Liquor.	-	-	-	629
Walnutts	-	-	-	2000
Port Wine	-	-	-	3169
Spanish Wine	-	-	-	15704
Hoops, Cane, Reeds, and Plank	-	-	-	700
Wool	-	-	-	368
Total				59300

N

HERE

HERE we may observe that they take from us (over and above those Articles which arise from grazing) Grain and Fish, and would take them in greater Quantities if we had them to spare; as also Tann'd Hides, Linnen, &c. except some Silk manufactur'd from the Streights, and Fruit, Wine and Oyl, in moderate Quantities; our Imports from thence are highly useful to us in working at home, as Iron, raw and thrown Silks, and Wooll, as also Salt, for our home Consumption, and Fisheries if we are so prudent as to undertake them, and a great Ballance in Specie.

THERE is this also to be consider'd, that great Part of this Trade is carry'd on, by our own Merchants in *Irish* Ships, and not by Commission; by which means our Ballance and the Profit of the Merchant upon our Exports, will be much more considerable.

It is highly prudent then in us to encourage and enlarge this Trade as much as possible, instead of that other at present pernicious Trade to *France*. By turning the Stream of our Trade a little from the *French* Channel, we should also have a better Price for our Provisions; for since their Numbers at home, and in their Colonies want our Provisions, by feeding them sparingly, they would give us a better Price; whereas now we glut their Market. We ought also to encourage the *Spanish* and *Portuguese* Trades, in order to their taking off greater Quantities of such Goods and Manufactures as we are allow'd to deal in; as Shoes, Linnen, Stockings, Hats and Iron-Ware; but Fish above all, which we lie so conveniently for, and is so certain a Benefit, if we can propose to take, cure, and carry them as well, and with as little Expence as our Neighbours. Would it not also be highly prudent in our Legislature, to consider whether the putting the *Spanish* and *Port* Wines upon the same Level with the *French*, in the Duties upon them, would not be a suitable Encouragement for that Trade, and acting justly both to
our

our selves and the *Spaniards*, since their Trade is so Beneficial to us. The Duties upon their Wines are now about 4*l.* per Tun higher than that upon the *French*; for what Reason I could never learn, were it not that the *French* Wine being weaker, People might drink a greater Quantity, and Cheaper than the other, and so have a longer Time to sit to get their Dose, and consequently lose more of their Time in sipping, to the Prejudice of both their private Fortunes and the Publick. If we would put them upon the same Level in the Customs, notwithstanding the prime Cost is something dearer, yet a Bottle of the one would go as far as two of the other; and those at least of the middle and lower Ranks of Men, who must be finish'd compleatly once a Day, might do it in less Time, and at less Expence; and by having more Time to rest, if they are any way capable of doing themselves or their Country any Service, the next Day they would be fitter for it than at present, when they turn the Night into Day. Neither do I think the sinking the additional Duties upon *Spanish* and *Port* Wines, would be any lessening of the Revenue, or at least so inconsiderable as might be easily made up another way. The Quantity imported at a Medium being valued at 30*l.* per Tun, amounts to 629⁸/₅ Tuns; the Additional Duty of which at 4*l.* per Tun, amounts to 2516⁸/₅; out of which Sum is to be deducted 10 per Cent for Leakage, and 10 per Cent prompt Payment; which would be ballanc'd by putting ten Shillings more Duty upon the *French* Wine per Tun; this would be an inconsiderable difference in the Price of *French* Wine, so that nicer Palates might still drink it near as cheap as now; for the less demand we had for them, the Cheaper would the *French* afford them.

The rest of this Discourse shall be given in a second
P A R T.

ourself and the Jewry, since their Trade is to
be sold to us. The Duties upon their Wines are
now about 40 per Cent higher than upon the
French, and what Reason I could never learn, were
it not that the French Wine being better, it people
might drink a greater Quantity, and consequently
the other, and to have a longer Time to sell to give
their Duty; and consequently lose more of their
Time in shipping, to the Disadvantage of both their pri-
vate Commerce and the Publick. If we would put
them upon the same Level with the Customs, notwithstanding
the private Duty, the private Duty is diminishing yearly, yet a
Bottle of one would go as far as two of the other;
and there at least of the middle and lower Ranks of
Men, who must be supplied, comparatively once a Day,
might do it in less Time, and at less Expence; and
by having more Time to sell, if they are any way
capable of doing themselves or their Country any
Service, the next Day they would be hindered in
their Operations, when they turn the wheel into
Day. Whether do I think the selling, the adding
our Duties upon French and Port Wine, would
be any thing of the Service, or at least in uncon-
futable it might be easily made up another way.
The Quantity imported at a Month being valued
at 300,000 £, an amount to 1000 Tuns; the Addi-
tional Duty of which at 100 shillings amounts to 100,000
£; out of which sum it is to be deducted 100,000
£ for Leakage, and 100,000 £ for the Duties
which would be balance, I do not think the selling
more Duty upon the French Wine and Port; this
would be an inconsiderable difference in the Price of
French Wine, to the great Disadvantage of the
it now is sold at, and for the sake of the Revenue
for them, the Charge would be made up to them.

The rest of the Discovery shall be given in a second
P. A. R. T.

AN
ESSAY
ON THE
TRADE
OF
IRELAND.

PART II.

By ARTHUR DOBBS, Esq;



DUBLIN:

Printed by A. RHAMES, for J. SMITH and W. BRUCE
on the *Blind-Key*. MDCC XXXI.

ESSAY

TABLE

OF

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TO HIS GRACE

L I O N E L,
Duke of *Dorset*, &c. Lord
Lieutenant-General, and
General Governor of *Ire-*
land, Lord Warden of the
Cinque-Ports, Constable of
Dover-Castle, one of the
Lords of His Majesty's
Most Honourable Privy-
Council, and Knight of the
Most Noble Order of the
Garter.

My LORD,



A V I N G had an Opportu-
nity of looking into the *Cu-*
stom-house Books, and, by
that Means, of finding how
the *Irish* Trade stood, with
relation to the several Countries around
us, that we have Dealings with: I thought

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DEDICATION.

it might be some Way useful to my Country, to publish the View I had taken of it, with some short Observations ; and also to add some Reflections upon the Means of improving our Country and Trade, so as to increase our Wealth, and add considerably to the Power of the *British* Empire.

To this Purpose, I have made some Inquiry into the Numbers and Employment of the People ; and have propos'd some Heads, which, if improv'd and reduc'd into proper Laws by our Legislature, I hope will contribute to make us frugal, employ our Poor, improve our Country, extend our Trade, and consequently increase our Numbers and add considerably to His Majesty's Revenue.

I AM convinced, we may do this and at the same Time add to the Power, Wealth, and Trade of *Britain*, by employing our Poor in those Branches of the several Manufactures that it is the Interest of *England* we should deal in: whereby
we

DEDICATION.

we may not only furnish *Britain* and it's Colonies with the Manufactures they now get from Foreigners ; but also by our cheap Labour assist *Britain* in recovering the Sale of several of their Manufactures, which Foreigners have of late been attempting, by their cheap Labour, to beat them out of Abroad. At the same Time we might assist them in the Fisheries upon their own Coasts and *Greenland*; which are so valuable, by employing a considerable Number of Ships and able Seamen, and by giving Employment at Home to many Thousands in fitting out the Ships and furnishing them with Necessaries. Besides, the Surplus of all we gain by the Employment of our Poor, except what is just necessary to carry on our Trade and Improvements, will by various Channels be convey'd from us again into *Britain* ; which, as it is the Seat of Empire, will also be that of Wealth, and the Center of Trade : Whereas whatever they give to employ foreign Poor, can by no Channels be brought back to *Britain*, but must center with foreign Nations.

S I N C E

DEDICATION

SINCE this is the Scope and Design of these few Sheets ; to whom can I so properly dedicate them, as to your GRACE. The just Confidence His Majesty has in your Integrity and Abilities, is the Motive of his placing you in the greatest Command over us ; by which he has given us the greatest Token of his Paternal Care of his loyal Subjects of *Ireland*.

WHO so proper to preside over his Protestant Subjects of *Ireland*, that so early distinguish'd themselves at the most critical Juncture, by their Zeal in steadily adhering to the Succession in his illustrious House ; as the Person chosen by the general Voice of *Britain*, to attend on his late and their present Majesties, and conduct them to a Throne, secur'd to them by the Divine Providence, as a Reward for their steady Adherence to the Protestant Religion : A Family bestow'd to *Britain* and *Ireland* as the choicest Blessing, for the Preservation of our civil and religious Liberties.

Y O U R

DEDICATION.

YOUR GRACE's so early espousing the Cause of Liberty, and constant Zeal for our present happy Establishment under his Majesty; your Benevolence to Mankind, and steady Endeavours to promote the Happiness of his Majesty's Government, and the Peace and Prosperity of *Britain*; as they are all Characteristicks of a great Soul, give us the strongest Hopes, I may even say Assurance, of our being happy under your GRACE's Administration; and that we may expect every Thing reasonable and just, that will promote our Welfare and Prosperity.

NOR can we expect less from your GRACE's just Representation of the Affections and Loyalty of the People of *Ireland*, and from your Interest in his Majesty (who has been always most gracious to us, and done every Thing, we could even hope for, to promote our Prosperity) than his Confirmation of all such Laws as may be prepar'd, consistent with the general Good of his Subjects, so as to increase our Trade and Fisheries, improve our Country,

DEDICATION.

Country, employ our Poor, unite our Affections with our Brethren in *England*, and make us heartily concur in promoting the Power, Wealth, and Glory of the *British* Empire.

THIS happy Union of Inclinations between the People of *Britain* and *Ireland*, and hearty Concurrence in promoting the Welfare of both, is a Prospect which I hope will enlarge every Day under your GRACE'S Administration: Of which we have the strongest Assurances, from the good Laws procur'd or design'd for us in *England* last Session; wherein they have, by their wise and just Discernment, propos'd to unite our Interest with theirs, in such a Manner as may convince all, who will seriously consider it, that the true Interest of either, is the joint Interest of both.

THIS we take as a happy Omen in the Beginning of your GRACE'S Government; and as a new Testimony of your Zeal and Activity in serving his Majesty, and the joint Interest of *Britain* and *Ireland*,

DEDICATION.

land, by your increasing the Number of our Friends on the other Side of the Water, and convincing them, that in promoting the Interest of *Ireland* they contribute to their own Happiness and Prosperity; for these friendly Offices must engage the Gentlemen of this Kingdom more and more to concur in every Thing that will promote the Power, Wealth, and Prosperity of *Britain*.

PERMIT me then, my Lord, to lay these few Sheets before you, together with the first Part which I publish'd before, which compleat this View of the Trade, and finish this Essay upon the Improvements of *Ireland*, and to beg your GRACE's Patronage for them. I would willingly hope that some Hints may be found in them, that may tend to the Service of my Country, and promote a happy Union of Sentiments in improving the present happy Opportunity of firmly uniting our Affections with those of our Brethren in *Britain*, and concurring in every Thing that may promote the mutual
Happiness

DEDICATION.

Happiness of both. This is the true Way of increasing the Number, and adding to the Weight of our Friends in *England*, and consequently, by this happy Union of Interests and Affections, of adding to the Glory of his Majesty's Reign, and to the Ease, Honour and Happiness of your *GRACE*'s Administration.

I am, with the greatest Submission and Respect,

My LORD,

Your GRACE's

Most Dutiful,

and Most Obedient,

Humble Servant,

ARTHUR DOBBS.



A N
E S S A Y
ON THE
TRADE
OF
IRELAND.

PART. II.



HAVING, in the first part already Publish'd, given a short View of the present Trade of *Ireland* with such Remarks upon it as occur'd to me in it's several parts: Before I proceed to make any Observations upon the Oversights we may have hitherto committed with regard to the Trade or inland Improvements of *Ireland*, I shall first give the Number of Inhabitants, with the proportion they bear to the quantity

of Land, not only in this Kingdom in general but also in the several Provinces and Counties; by which we may find how we have increas'd since the late happy Revolution and Reduction of *Ireland*, the Establishment of our Civil and Religious Liberties and Security of our Properties.

It will also be an assistance to future observations of our increase or decrease in general, as well as in particular Counties and Towns; by which we may find out the Reasons why particular Counties or Towns increase, as by their Improvements in Manufactures, Tillage &c. and how others decrease by contrary Management or other Defaults.

For this purpose I have extracted, from the Books return'd by the Collectors of the Hearth-money, the Number of Houses in the several Provinces and Counties in *Ireland*, for the Years, 1712, 1718, 1725, and 1726; an Abstract of which I give here in the following Table, with the Number of Computed Plantation-Acres (being seven yards to the Perch) in each County and at a Medium to each House in each County for the Year 1725, as also the Number of Houses, in the most Considerable Cities and Trading Towns with their Precincts, and the Number of Parishes in each County.



Ulster.

N ^o .	Ulster.	N ^o . Houses 1712.	N ^o . 1718.	N ^o . 1725.	N ^o . 1726.	Acres Comput- ed.	Acres at a Medium to each House.	N ^o . Parish- es.
1	Antrim	19268	19572	19669	18916	383020	19. 47	56
2	Down	18058	19147	18980	18916	344658	18. 16	72
3	Armagh	9003	9586	10539	10531	170620	16. 18	49
4	Tyrone	11502	11924	12178	12097	387175	31. 79	30
5	London Derry	11592	12154	12680	12713	251510	19. 8	38
6	Donnegal	12685	10405	10436	10542	630157	60. 38	40
7	Fermanagh	5208	5353	5563	5412	224807	40. 4	19
8	Monaghan	7395	7443	8018	7866	170090	21. 18	24
9	Cavan	7914	7959	7909	7852	274800	34. 75	37
	Ulster Total.	102625	103543	105972	104845	2836837	26. 76	365
	Leinster.							
1	Louth	6947	7485	7534	7692	111180	14. 76	50
2	Meath	13741	14186	14835	14521	326480	22.	139
3	Westmeath	7677	7695	8899	8310	249943	28.	62
4	Dublin	16453	17387	18684	17609	123784	6. 62	87
5	King's County	6645	6844	7725	7515	257510	33. 3	56
6	Queen's County	7183	7551	9046	8885	238590	27. 48	39
7	Kildare	7415	7554	8316	8293	228590	27. 48	100
8	Wicklow	6999	7490	7385	7620	252410	34. 1	54
9	Carlow	3463	3870	5681	4873	116900	20. 57	42
10	Wexford	10045	10558	13165	13002	315396	23. 93	109
11	Kilkenny	8830	9373	10779	10624	287650	26. 67	96
12	Longford	5129	5035	4302	4166	134700	31. 3	24
	Leinster Total.	100527	105028	116351	113110	2642958	22. 71	860
	Connaught.							
1	Leitrim	4552	4929	4716	4652	206830	43. 85	21
2	Sligo	6837	6624	6893	6927	241550	35.	41
3	Mayo	9397	9967	12615	12742	724640	57. 4	73
4	Gallway	15739	15403	16679	17953	775525	46. 49	136
5	Roscommon	8440	8566	7776	7957	324370	41. 7	59
	Connaught Total.	44965	44989	48679	50231	2272915	46. 69	330

Continuation

Continuation, 1712 1718 1725 1726					Acres Com- puted.	Acres at a Medium.	Parish- es.	
N ^o .	Munster							
1	Cork	39094	43692	47741	48666	991010	20. 75	232
2	Kerry	10166	11796	12917	13072	636905	49. 3	84
3	Limrick	17413	15322	16754	16901	375320	22. 4	130
4	Waterford	9858	10032	10959	11323	259010	23. 68	71
5	Tipperary	17599	17357	16840	16979	599500	35.	147
6	Clare	8602	9749	10016	9726	428187	42. 75	76
	Munster Total.	102732	107948	115227	116665	3289932	28. 55	740
32	Ireland Total.	349849	361508	386229	384851	11042642	28. 59	2295
						N ^o . Hearths		
	Dublin City.	9176	9505	11466	11525	1725- 58507		17
	Cork, City and Liberties,			7536				12
	Limrick, City & Liberties,			3169				19
	Waterford, City and Lib.			2044				
	Kilkenny, and Liberties,			2138				
	Galloway, and Liberties,			1567				
	Drogheda, and Liberties,			1212				
	Belfast, and Parish,			2093				
	Lisburn, and Parish,			787				
	Newry, and Parish,			1013				
	Dundalk,			407				
	Carrickfergus, & Liberties,			546				
	Colrain, and Liberties.			721				

IN looking over this Abstract a considerable difference will be found in the last two Years, too considerable to proceed from any real Decrease in the Number of the Houses: For this reason and the great Increase since Sir. *William Petty's* time in 1672, when they were computed at 200000; it will be proper to make some Observations upon it.

THE difference between the Returns in 1725 and 1726, as I apprehend, is occasion'd by the Collectors not making a Regular Return of the Houses of the Poor, who are certify'd to live upon Alms and don't pay the Tax; some in their Abstracts returning them, some in part, and some not at all; and the Collectors being frequently removed from one District to another, occasions the Poor in some Years to be return'd, in others not, according to the care or Negligence of the several Collectors.

ANOTHER Reason I apprehend to be, from Gentlemen's receiving or dismissing whole Villages of Native Irish at once; their Houses or Cabbins being generally made of earth or dry stone, there is little difference in the Expence or Time employ'd in erecting or demolishing of them; and this is done just as Gentlemen incline to break up their Lands and improve them by Tillage, or as they lay them down under Grass and enlarge their Sheepwalks and Grazing Farms; and by this means the Poor, who remove with little trouble, are turn'd adrift and must remove to some other place where they can get Employment.

IN Order to compute the Number of Inhabitants from the foregoing Table, I shall make an Estimate of the inhabited Houses for the Year 1725.

THE waste Hearths are return'd by the Collectors in Arrear, and if there be no Distress found the

the second Year, they are struck out of the List. In the Year 1725 there were 9885 Hearths return'd in Arrear, exclusive of *Dublin*. I took the Number of Hearths that Year, which were 493801; and the Houses that Year amounting to 386229, the Hearths at a Medium to each House were 1.278. the Houses of *Dublin* that Year being 11466, and the Hearths 58507; there were in *Dublin* 5.25 Hearths at a Medium to each House; and in the Kingdom, exclusive of the Houses and Hearths of *Dublin*, the Hearths were 1.14 to each House. By the same way of proceeding there should be 8510 waste Houses in the Kingdom, exclusive of *Dublin*; and there being 1993 Hearths return'd in Arrear in *Dublin*, there wou'd be 380 waste Houses in *Dublin*. I am inform'd by the Collectors that generally half of the Arrear is receiv'd in the following Year, and consequently not 200 waste in the City: But having taken in *Donnabrook* Parish into the City of which *Rings-end* is a part and may now be said to be annex'd to the City, I will allow those Houses in lieu of those which are dispers'd in the Country part of that Parish; so there will still be 11086 inhabited Houses in *Dublin*.

If we suppose the whole 380 waste; the Number waste in the Kingdom will amount to 8800, which being deducted from the Number return'd, there will remain 377339 inhabited Houses in the Kingdom: But this falls somewhat short of the Truth, for I find in that Year there were at the Rate of 13.3 Counties, for which no Return was made of the Poor-houses not lyable to pay Hearth-money; and for the rest of the Kingdom there were 7881 Poor-houses return'd; in proportion to which there must have been 5607 Poor-houses not return'd, which, being added to 377339, makes in the whole the Number of inhabited Houses 382846. I have reason to believe this Computation is within
the

the Truth ; for I have often known Hearth-money Collectors fall short, but never any who have given too large Returns of the Poor-houses. Neither in the City of *Dublin*, nor any where thro' the Kingdom, are included in this Number the Castle, Custom-houses, Barracks, Colledges, Work-houses, Charity Schools, Watch-houses, or Light-houses. Kilns and Smiths Shops are always annex'd to dwelling Houses, unless the Smiths who work in them, be Inmates in other Houses ; and those are very few in Number.

FROM several Returns made to me of the Number of Persons in each Family, in a great many contiguous Parishes in the County of *Antrim*, I find the Medium to be 4.36 to a Family ; according to which the Number of Inhabitants in *Ireland* would amount to 1669644 : But I dont insist upon this as a just computation, I am apt to believe it is rather within the Truth. In order to have the computation Correct, it would be necessary to have a great many more Returns from different parts of the Kingdom : For, from a different way of living in the several Provinces and in Cities and great Towns, there may be more in a Family in some parts of the Kingdom than in the County from whence I took my Estimate.

SHOULD we proceed the common way, without having proper Returns by which to fix a Medium, there would be no certainty in the calculation of our Numbers. For Instance ; let us take the City of *Dublin*, and propose to find out the Numbers in it as usually done by the Bills of Mortality. The Births or more justly the Baptiz'd by our Establish'd Clergy, for the Year ending Lady Day 1728, amount to 1672 ; in this Number no Dissenters of any kind are included, Protestant or Papist : So that were there a just account taken, the Dissenters of all kinds equalling if not much exceeding those of

the Establish'd Church, the Births would be at least double and consequently above 3300. this would exceed the Burials, which that Year amounted to 2946 and exceeded the Burials of the preceding Year 183; so that they may be computed under 3000 annually in *Dublin*. In this Number are not included those who Die in Town and are carry'd to the Country, nor Quakers who Bury in their own Yards: However suppose the Burials in round Numbers to amount to 3000, one in thirty Dying annually as computed by the Ingenious Doctor *Halley*; the Number of persons in *Dublin* would amount to 90000. but if the Returns made to Doctor *Tisdal* were carefully taken, of the Numbers in each House in two Parishes within the City and two in the Suburbs, from which he computed at a Medium $12\frac{1}{2}$ in each House; the Number of Souls in *Dublin* would amount to 133955, there being 11086 inhabited Houses in the City. Or if ten be allow'd to each House, which most think is a low enough computation, considering how many live together in a House in the Trading part of the City, (where 70 persons have been known to live in a House; there being a Family sometimes in each Room, oftentimes in each Floor, and in the Cellars) the Number then would amount to 110860. By this last computation, the Burials would not amount to 1 in 36; by the other, not above one in forty four. Hence I conclude, either the Registrys in *Dublin* or in *Breslaw* are not exact; or *Dublin* is more healthy than the other.

AFTER the same Manner should we endeavour to find out the Numbers in the Kingdom, by fixing a determined *Æra* as in 1672 (when Sr. *William Petty* by the Returns found there were 200000 Houses in the Kingdom; and from thence, allowing $5\frac{1}{2}$ to a Family, computed the Number then in *Ireland* to be 1100000) and supposing an Increase by Natural Generation, we must be under great uncertainty; for if Sr. *William's* Computation be wrong, the Foundation

dation is destroy'd: Besides, the Climate, Constitution, Manner of Living, Government, Trade, and accidents of War, Famine, Plague, Persecution, &c make so great a difference, that some Countries when tolerably peopled may never double; and other Countries thinly peopl'd, by good Government, Liberty of Conscience, Trade and Accession of Inhabitants, may double in a very short time, even by Natural Generation in less than 50 Years. But on such Computations, the Incidental Causes being so various and uncertain, there can be no dependance without facts to build upon.

Thus, for instance, suppose a Million of Inhabitants in *Ireland* in 1691, when the War ended (by Mr. *South's* Computation from the Pole Tax, there were 40000 more in 1695): We may reasonably suppose 500000 of these Females, the War having destroy'd fewer of these than of the other sex; 240000 of these above 14 and under 46, of an Age capable to bear Children. Suppose 40000 of these Barren, there would then have been 200000 breeding Women in the Kingdom; each of these might have a Child once in two Years, so the Births each Year might be 100000: I will add this to the first Number, because many Die in the first Year of their Age, which would make the Number 1100000; and suppose 1 in 30 to Die, then the Burials would amount to 36666, which being subtracted from the Births, there would remain 63334 for the Neat Increase each Year. By this Computation the Nation might double in 16 Years, tho there were no Accession of Inhabitants from abroad; for the Number of Breeding Women, who are daily coming of Age capable to bear Children, would add to the Births still more in Proportion, than the Increasing Numbers to the Burials. After the same Manner, supposing 1 in 5 only to bear once in two Years, the Numbers might be doubled in 42 Years.

THIS, tho' it shews the Possibility of doubling in a short time, yet we find is very different from the Manner of Increasing in this Age. Mr. King's Tables are laid down with a great deal of Judgment, yet it is highly probable he was wrong in his Computation of the time of *England's* doubling their Numbers since the *Norman Conquest*. His supposition of their having doubled in 435 Years preceding 1690 I am persuaded is too long a Term: For 'tis highly probable, from the breaking the Power of the Barons in King *Henry the 7th* Reign, the *Æra* of the Commencement of our present happy Constitution, the Numbers in *England* are doubled in about 240 Years; and yet it is probable they had not doubl'd from the *Norman Conquest* until that time, which was above 400 Years. The great Increase of their Numbers since, proceeds from the Establishment of their Liberties Civil and Religious, and the Increase of their Trade and Commerce upon it: This drew in Numbers from many parts of Europe; and their Increase at home proceeded from the Peace, Plenty and satisfaction, which since that time has happen'd to most Ranks and degrees of Men.

THE quicker Increase before Countries are thoroughly inhabited, is occasion'd by the Ease they find in maintaining a Family where Provisions and other necessaries are cheap. As Numbers increase, the difficulty in providing for a Family increases in proportion; so that People grow cautious in marrying, until they have provided somewhat to maintain a Family with tolerable Satisfaction.

THUS the great Increase of the Number of Houses in *Ireland* may be accounted for, and yet the Numbers in each Family not be much lessen'd, as some imagine they are by a Subdivision of Families; so that the Medium of Persons in a Family may be nearly the same: For great part of *Ireland* lying waste in 1691, the Inhabitants, for the Reasons before

fore mention'd, increas'd faster than afterwards. There was also an accession of Inhabitants from *Britain*, and a considerable Encouragement given to Foreign Protestants to Promote their Residence amongst us. The Papiſts also make it a principle of Conſcience to increaſe their Numbers, for the good of the Catholick Religion, as they call it; and, for want of Nunneries and Monasteries, breed faster here than in Countries where their Religion is Eſtabliſh'd; and, Fornication being accounted but a Venial Sin with them, their Girls are eaſily perſuaded to have Children very early, and take great care of them when they have them. What has of late occaſion'd a check to our increaſe, was the ſcarcity of Proviſions we had for 2 or 3 Years by reaſon of bad Seasons and want of Granaries; this, with our extravagant conſumption of foreign luxuries, turn'd the Ballance of Trade againſt us; and influenc'd a great many of our Proteſtant Poor for want of employment to go to *America*, where they heard Proviſions were plenty and Cheap; and many Papiſts went to fill up the *Iriſh* Regiments in the ſervice of *France* and *Spain*.

FROM the foregoing Table we may obſerve that thoſe Countries, where Trade and Commerce Flouriſhes and particularly where the Linnen Manufacture is eſtabliſh'd, are by far the moſt populous; tho' ſome of them are the leaſt fertile. The Counties of *Antrim*, *Down*, *Armagh*, and *Derry*, the chief Linnen Counties, have not twenty *Iriſh* Acres to a Family; and yet if we caſt our eyes upon the moſt fertile parts of *Munſter*, the rich Lands of *Limrick* and *Tipperary*, we will find that the one has twenty two Acres and the other thirty five to each Family. Even *Cork*, whoſe Metropolis is a place of great Trade, and whoſe Coaſt is fill'd with many populous Towns, has near twenty one Acres to a Family. The Province of *Connaught*, which in moſt places is
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very fertil, has above forty six; and even *Leinster*, the Center of our Trade, has near twenty three, the Counties of *Dublin* and *Louth* being excluded. As for *Tyrone* and *Donnegal*, tho' they may be reckon'd among the Linnen Counties; yet they appear but thinly inhabited, from their large Tracts of Desert Mountains, that are invincible and not to be reclaim'd.

By these Observations, we may not only see that there is a benefit arising to the Nation in general from Manufactures, but Landlords may perceive an immediate advantage accruing to themselves in particular. They will see how vastly Manufactures increase our Numbers; and as to the effect which that must necessarily have upon the value of Lands, by raising the demand for its produce, it is too plain to be insisted upon.

PERHAPS it will not be amiss here to take notice of the proportion *Ireland* bears to *England*, with regard to the Number of Inhabitants.

By the Returns of the Collectors of the Fire-hearths in *England* for the Year 1690, as Publish'd by Doctor *Devenant*, there were then 1319215 Houses in *England*; of which in *Middelfex*, were 111215, in *Surry* including *South-wark*, 40610, in *Wales* 77921, and in *Yorkshire* 121052. I will suppose *England* has increas'd in proportion to its Numbers twice as much in the last 35 Years from 1690, as *Ireland* has done in the last 13 Years from 1712 to 1725; tho they may be presum'd to have increas'd considerably more, it being within 4 Years of thrice the time. Since *Ireland* in that time has increas'd 36380, above $\frac{1}{10}$ of the whole in 1712; then adding $\frac{1}{2}$ or twice as much for the Increase of *England* in 35 Years, it would have increas'd 263842 since 1690; so that the Number of Houses in *England* in 1725 would be 1583057. But since it may be reasonably presum'd they have increas'd by their Union

Union with *Scotland*, and the many advantages they have over *Ireland* by Trade, &c, fully as much in proportion as we have done since 1712; I may venture to add near 17000 more, and yet still be within Bounds when I compute the Houses in *England* in 1725 at 1600000. And considering their greater Wealth, and Number of Rich and Populous Cities, five may be allow'd to a Family; so that the Number of their Inhabitants, without including *North-Britain*, would be 8000000. Then the Numbers in *England* to those in *Ireland* would be nearly as five to one; and if *Scotland* be as Populous as *Ireland*, the Numbers in *Britain* to those in this Kingdom would be about 6 to One.

It is reasonable to believe that in 1690 there were in *London* within the Bills of Mortality 111000 Houses, the Number then computed in *Middlesex*; for the Houses in *South-wark* and *Surrey* within the Bills of Mortality are a greater Number than those of *Middlesex* exclusive of the City: And from the vast Increase of *London* since, I shall be within the Truth in supposing the Number at present to be 125000; which is about 9000 more than in *Munster* or *Leinster*, the most Populous Provinces in *Ireland*. *London* would then be to *Dublin* as 11 to one. It may be also observ'd that *Yorkshire* then had about 5000 more than are now in *Munster* or *Leinster*; and the Number in *Wales* then, to either of them now, is nearly as 2 to 3.

I shall now proceed to make some Observations upon the Trade and inland Improvements of *Ireland*, and consider what may be of advantage to us in our present situation and may enable us to live with satisfaction under the protection of *Britain*, in the Enjoyment of our Religious and Civil Liberties and Property. To discover all our Errors, and propose the best Methods of amendment, would require a Person of the greatest genius and most extensive

five knowledge: But since such a genius is not to be expected; every one should contribute according to his ability; that something may arise from the whole, of use in the improvement of our Country. In hopes then of a favourable construction of what I propose, I will endeavour with the greatest impartiality and care to lay open all the difficultys upon Trade, which I can think of; and propose whatever I imagine may be of benefit to it: And instead of being Splenatick or grumbling at any Restrictions put upon us by our Ancestors, let us endeavour to promote the enjoyment of what we have with pleasure and satisfaction; that we may all in our several spheres chearfully contribute to support the Power, Wealth, Fame and Commerce of the *British* Empire, of which *Ireland* is no inconsiderable Member.

I will proceed with this view, without considering any Restraints put upon us by *Britain*, where they imagine we interfere in their Trade; unless it be in such instances, wherein I think it would be a benefit to them to give us greater liberty in Trade; for since we must allow that private interest does sometimes prevail in publick assemblies, as well as among private Persons: All assemblies being compos'd of private Persons: We can't expect an enlargement of Trade, (however Rational it may appear where nothing but Publick Spirit prevails;) unless we can make it appear that what we desire is not only beneficial to that whole of which we are a part, but also not detrimental to those who have a Power to obstruct it. Nothing will more readily gain us greater concessions, than heartily and sincerely shewing our inclinations to support their Welfare and Glory, and to promote our joynt happiness. This is the most prudent method to convince them, that whatever they give, that may enable us to concur in supporting their Power and Empire against all foreign Princes and States, is given to themselves;

So that they ought to enlarge and strengthen their Foundation, to support so extended a Fabrick; since there is ground enough for all to build upon.

THE great advantage of Trade and Commerce to a Nation arises from the variety of Employments given to the several Members of it; by enabling them not only to supply the necessities and conveniences of each other with what their own Country affords, but also to supply the wants of People in the most distant Regions and Climates with their produce and Labour; and in return to receive from them all that is necessary convenient or pleasant in life which any part of the Earth can produce or whatever may be improv'd by the labour and ingenuity of Men in any Climate. This makes in effect every Nation, that is possess'd of an extended Commerce, enjoy the benefit of the best Soils and Climates; tho perhaps, from their situation, they might otherwise be in the worst. Trade makes the People of the whole Earth as one great Family supplying each others wants. Whatever Nation can by their prudence outdo others in Trade; so as to increase their Exports and lessen perishable Imports and so increase their Stock by the return of a considerable Ballance; must not only be a Magazine of all commodities necessary in life, but also abound in Gold and Silver, and thus prodigiously increase their power: So that in case of War they are enabled by their amass'd Wealth, not only to defend themselves; but to fit out Ships to protect their Trade and provide all necessaries for carrying on an advantageous War against Kingdoms of much greater extent and Numbers; where, for want of Wealth and Magazines, they can make no use of their Numbers; for such Nations, if they can't conquer at the first attempt; are not capable of continuing a War, but must sink under it.

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SINCE these are the advantages of Trade and Commerce, and Merchants are absolutely necessary to carry it on, is it not the Publick Interest to encourage them as much as possible? For since the profit gain'd by the publick arises from the particular gains of private Persons imbark'd in Trade and Manufactures; no Person or Merchant will be concern'd in it, if he does not find it beneficial to him.

IT is undoubtedly then the Nations Interest to enable the Merchant to improve his fortune by Trade; for 'tis he that sets all the Wheels in Motion. By his Correspondence he finds out Markets for Goods: he Advances the Money and runs all risques: whatever sums of Money he lays out unnecessarily are so many Clogs upon Trade: 'tis his Money is the spring of action, and keeps the whole Machine in Motion. If his Returns are quick, he will deal for less profit, and consequently give higher Prices for Goods at home and be able to afford them Cheaper abroad: by which means; he encourages the industrious at home by keeping up our Markets; and always keeps a Market open abroad by being able to sell, at least at *Par*, with foreign Merchants.

IF this be allow'd to be rational and true it will necessarily follow that all Nations, who propose to advance their Trade and Commerce, should prevent, as much as possible, Merchants from misapplying their time and Money to other purposes and make their coming at Money as easy as possible that they may be contented with a small profit by its circulating faster. In laying this Foundation right does the whole benefit by Trade consist: and in this; with proper *Æ*conomy by sumptuary Laws and employment of the People of a Nation; lies the whole Mystery of Trade. To these three points I shall endeavour to apply my self, and, as far as I am capable, propose what may be advantageous in each;
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and afterwards consider several particular Improvements which may contribute to employ us, increase our Exports, lessen our Imports, and make us an easy and happy People.

THE principal discouragements and difficultys the Merchants of this Kingdom lie under, are owing to the height of Interest of Money; the Dutys upon Exports and Imports; and the delay and expence that attends the Methods, in this Country, of coming at their Debts.

THE benefit accruing to a Nation from the lowness of Interest, is so fully treated of by Sir *Josias Child*, that it will be very hard to add any thing upon that subject: but it is so warmly oppos'd by those who make an immediate gain by the height of Interest, and they make so considerable a Body both by their Numbers and Wealth, that I think it necessary to say something upon that subject; and the rather because it is of the utmost consequence in Trade, and therefore a matter of the greatest importance to the riches and happyness of every Country.

WHERE Interest of Money is *High*; *Land*, Provisions and all the Commodities of the Country must necessarily be cheap. As for instance: when Money was at 10 *per Cent*, And consequently Land at 10 or 12 Years purchase; would any Person improve his Lands by Building, Planting, Draining, Fencing or Soiling, and perhaps not make 5 or 6 *per Cent* for his Money; when he could purchase Land so cheap, or have such high Interest? Or would a Merchant give any tolerable price for the commodities of the Country, when he could not Trade abroad to advantage without making 15 or 16 *per Cent* Profit, considering his Risque and the high Interest he paid? For the same reason he could not sell at *Par* abroad with foreign Merchants, upon account of the excessive Freight occasion'd by high Interest; the foreign Merchants being content with less profit,

by procuring Money at low Interest and carrying their Goods at an easy Freight.

PROVISIONS and all Commodities at home being cheap; the Farmers and Labourers, by employing a small part of their time, procur'd all the necessaries they requir'd and would not Work the remainder of their time. Thus all Industry was at a stand, and Indolence and Idleness overspread the Country. This we had experience of, when Interest was so high in this Kingdom; then most Men were fond of purchasing, or laying out their Money at Interest; few were inclin'd to Trade; those that did, were fond of quitting a way of life that lay under so many difficultys and discouragements. The young Merchant, that had but a small Stock to begin with, found it more for his advantage to act by Commission for Foreigners than pay such high Interest as Trade could not bear; and Forreigners were tempted to lay out their Money at Interest here, and not only took away our Merchant's profit but also the very Vitals from the Kingdom.

THESE are the consequences of high Interest; but let us turn the Scale, and see what are the effects of low Interest. Where Interest is at 3 or 4 *per Cent*, the Money-lender can't double his principal at simple Interest in less than 25 or 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ Years, and at compound Interest not under 20 or 26: If he lays out his Money in Land, he has less; Land being better than Mortgages or common security by one, or at least $\frac{1}{2}$ *per Cent*. Thus, when he finds he can't live upon the Interest of his Money without great *Æconomy*, nor purchase Lands without greater expence; he will employ his time in some business or employment profitable to the Publick; and apply himself early to business and employ his Money in Trade, whereby he has a prospect of so much greater gain; and, if he has not been bred to that business, he will lay out his Money in the Funds and joynt Stocks

Stocks for Trade. Thus, where Interest is low, those who have Money must be equally industrious with those that have none, or must live in a low Station and appear to have little or none.

THOSE who are already posses'd of Lands, will find the Value of them to rise so high; that instead of attempting to purchase the Lands of another at a high price, they will incline to employ the industrious Poor, in purchasing upon their own by enriching and improving them; which they can do at less expence. Thus, as Lands rise in Value, they will be improv'd in goodness; and may, by proper industry, be rais'd in many places from 4 or 5, to twenty or thirty Shillings *per Acre*. This would be an immense profit to a Nation, and would be in effect adding so much more Land to it; for the Lands of each Kingdom may be said to bear such proportion to each other, as the Produce and Numbers they can maintain.

THUS the same Lands improv'd, will yield many more provisions and rich commodities to employ and maintain a much greater Number of People; and yet provisions be kept at a reasonable price; by which means labour wont rise, but Trades-men and Manufactures will be employed to advantage.

THUS Trade and Navigation would be improv'd by the increase of our Exports and employment of our People; which is the genuine source of a beneficial Trade. Young Merchants, of a good Character and Capacity, might then have Money so cheap; that they could afford to Trade for 5 or 6 *per Cent* Profit; and associate with others in Trade; and at the same time repay the Principal and grow rich. Building and fitting out of Ships and freight would be cheaper than when Interest was high; by Labour's being kept low from the plenty of provisions, and because many of the Materials would be furnish'd cheaper by the Merchant who could deal for less profit.

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By lowness of Interest the Merchant could not only afford to sell what he imported cheaper; but also could give greater prices for our Exports, and yet undersell Merchants abroad who had not the same advantage. Thus industry would be promoted; Trade would circulate briskly; the Value of Land would rise immensely; and Merchants, when they had made considerable gain by Trade, finding no great advantage to be made by purchasing Lands at a high Value; would continue their Stock and breed up their Children in Trade and consequently would not check the Current but rather find out new Channels and look into all the sources of Trade.

TRADE has also this peculiar advantage that it is not easily overstock'd; for, as Merchants increase in Numbers, they naturally enlarge the field of Trade and make business for one another. Thus encouragement is given for new Improvements, inventions and discoveries beneficial in Trade. Fisheries and other projects where a great National gain may be made; tho small to each particular Person, would be brought to perfection; and the Carrying-Trade, which is so very beneficial, must certainly center with that Nation that has Money at lowest Interest; which by that Means is able to deal for least Profit. This is also an encouragement to build Granaries and other Ware-houses to lodge Grain &c in, when cheap; and to make benefit of the rise of Markets abroad. It will also promote the Æconomy and Frugality of a Nation, in spite of all prejudices to the contrary. I shall only mention these further advantages arising from the lowness of Interest; it compels younger Children of small fortunes, who can't maintain themselves handsomely by the Interest of their Money, to employ it in Trade or Manufactures; it also increases the Number of Merchants and industrious Persons who employ the Poor; and it lessens the Number of poor Gentlemen with their
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genuine off-spring, Rakes, Sharpers, Gamesters &c. There are many other advantages to be had from the lowness of Interest, but my intention is only to point out some of the chief.

THE next thing to be consider'd, is; whether the benefits arising from low Interest, are to be procur'd in this Kingdom by Laws forbidding high Interest under severe penalties; or whether the having plenty of Money is the only way of reducing it. Since People are divided in opinion upon this question; I will consider what may be said on either side, and endeavour to find out which is the best and most expeditious way of obtaining an end so much to be desir'd.

ON the one side of the question it is urg'd; that the plenty or scarcity of Money must necessarily lower or raise the Interest of it; in proportion to the sums wanted and Numbers demanding, and the sums to be lent and Number of People who have it to lend. This at first View seems to be highly rational; for the scarcity of any commodity wanted and the Number wanting must raise the price, in proportion as the possession of it is necessary; and the Reverse will happen when it is plenty, provided the commodity be Perishable: For he who has it, and has no use for it, wants to get rid of it least it should perish in his hands; tho he should be a loser in parting with it; for it would be better to lose part than all: But Money so far differs from many other Commodities, that, when it is scarce, it is not absolutely necessary but convenient; and when plenty, it is only so far to be accounted perishable, as the gain that might have been made of it (had it been put out to Interest) is lost, but is not intrinsically so in it self. We frequently see Usurers and Money-lenders keep it by them a considerable time, in hopes of having higher Interest or better security, even until they lose as much as they can propose to gain
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in a considerable time by the high Interest they expect. So 'tis not absolutely the plenty or scarcity of Money, which raises and lowers the Interest; but the Circumstances and Character of the Persons wanting, or the security offer'd being good or not: This, where there is no Law, will alter the height of Interest 2 or 3 *per Cent*; and in Countries, where there is a Law Penal to those that exceed a limited Interest, a Man of good Character in business or giving good security will abate the legal Interest 1 or 2 *per Cent*.

It is plain in Kingdoms where there is no Law to limit or Reduce the Interest of Money, if Money be scarce, tho' good security be offer'd, yet Usurers will exact a very high Interest: And if they think the security insufficient, they will exceed all bounds; and if Money be plenty, they will beat down the Interest upon one another, to get the best security. But in Countries where penal Laws are in force to limit the Interest, the case is very different, for then, tho' Money be scarce, they must give it at legal Interest or otherwise attempt to evade the Law by inserting more Money in the security than was really lent, under pretended Sales of Goods not easily to be valued, or by extorting unlawful Interest by threatening to call in the Principal. As the Lender, in both these cases, would be liable to a forfeiture of the Money lent or some other very severe Penalty in case of a discovery; and as a discovery would be very much for the Interest of the borrower; and no Person would borrow on such terms, but one in desperate or very distress'd Circumstances; all those things consider'd; it is scarce to be imagin'd that any Man in his wits would run the risque of so great a loss, as that of losing his whole Principal Money either by the Penalty of the Law, or the poverty of the borrower, for the prospect of so small a gain; when he might at the same time, by employing his Money
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in Trade, make a gain both greater and more secure: whilst the only difficulty the borrower would be put to, would be to have no credit to borrow Money at illegal Interest; which would be an advantage to him, and perhaps put him upon living frugally before he were quite ruin'd and reduc'd to starve in a Goal.

THE Consequence then of reducing Interest by Law would be, that any Person of a sober Character in profitable business, or who could give good Security, might borrow Money with a View of improvement at or under the legal Interest: And those who would borrow, with a View to defraud their Creditors, would find a difficulty to procure it; which would equally be of benefit to the Publick.

THUS Laws made to reduce Interest must take effect, where Money is scarce; for those who have Money must lend it at the legal Interest, or run a risque that no wise Man would venture, or must employ their Money more to the publick advantage in Trade or Improvements; and the Extravagant, having few to support them, would be oblig'd to live within Bounds, and Retrench; this consequently would make Money less wanted, and would assist in lowering the Interest, and procuring Money by Industry.

IT is then highly necessary to make Laws, to prevent exorbitant Interest in all States. 'Tis also prudent, from time to time, to abate it by new Laws, tho' Money be not plenty, until it is at *Par* with other trading Nations: since it is plain no Nation can Trade upon an equal footing with other Nations, unless the Merchant's gain be equal in proportion to the risque, and he can afford to sell at *Par* with foreign Merchant's abroad. Since it is also obvious that the lowness of Interest promotes Frugality and Industry, which consequently increases Money, I think it is highly rational, to begin at the right end, and abate Interest by Law; this we are sure will have

the effect: Whereas if we wait till Money grows plenty, or the Frugal exceed the Extravagant, without making Laws to promote Frugality which will in part execute themselves and oblige us to be good *Æconomists*; perhaps a plenty of Money may never happen, and Interest consequently never be lower'd or the Nation improv'd.

THERE are some that allow all that has been said for low Interest, and yet insist that we ought always to follow *Britain* in lowering it, and have it here 1 or 2 *per Cent* above the legal Interest there: What are the reasons that sway them to that opinion I can't easily find out. After being convinc'd that the lower Interest is, the more frugal and industrious we must be, that Trade must be carry'd on to greater National and private profit, that freight must be cheaper, and that we should effectually share with other Nations the carrying Trade, as also in Fisheries and other Improvements; Yet afterwards to say it is our Interest that *Britain* should have 1 or 2 *per Cent* the advantage of us, tho' they exceed us vastly in all other improvements and conveniences for Trade, seems to me to be so inconsistent, I could wish to know the true reasons they found their judgments upon.

IF the legal Interest here being at *Par* with that of *Britain*, were an occasion of draining our Money from us, or obstructing our Trade, they would have reason for their opinion: But since it is evident it would have the contrary effect, and even were it lower, would rather increase than diminish our Money and Trade; for we should be the Lenders, rather than the borrowers from thence, which must be allowed is always advantageous, by a constant return of the Interest; this rather makes against them than otherwise. The only plausible reason I can give for their opinion, is, that those who have Money unemploy'd in Trade, would lend their Money in
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Britain, and go and reside with their Debtors where their Mortgages and other Securities lay. If this were a sufficient inducement, why don't the *English*, who lend Money in *Ireland* and in the Plantations at high Interest, go and reside with their Debtors, or the *Dutch*, when they lend their Money in *England*, go and reside in *Britain*? But the reason is plain from what I have already said; when the Interest is reduced very low, there is no encouragement to live upon the Interest alone; People must then be industrious as well as frugal, and employ themselves in some Business profitable to them and the Common-wealth.

Thus those who make Money by industry, would be imbarck'd in Trade or other business, and would not leave it to go to *England* and live upon the Interest of their Money, where living is more expensive; But if they gain'd more than was sufficient to carry on their Trade, they would transmit and lend the over-plus, if they could find no way of laying it out to advantage here, and reside here at a distance from *London*, where they could live cheaper and at less expence, and follow the business they were imbarck'd in. It would also oblige them to breed up their Children to their own business or some other equally beneficial; which would induce them to reside in the Kingdom.

BUT perhaps it may be said, that *England* being the Center of Trade and Wealth, those who had Money would rather go there to Trade and employ it: This reason equally holds good for the rest of *England* against *London*, which in great measure runs away with the Trade, Profit and Cash of the Kingdom: But it would be no advantage to the Country, to have Interest 1 or 2 per Cent higher than in *London*, to prevent their lending Money in *London*, and going afterwards upon that to reside there. As there are several Trading Towns in *Britain* very rich besides

London, as Bristol, Newcastle, Liverpool, Glasgow, Norwich and other Manufacturing Towns, notwithstanding Interest is the same through *Britain*; so I can't see why *Ireland* might not have a share in the Trade of the World, tho' never to come into competition with *England*, sufficient to employ those who have Money and would be industrious, without going to *England* to live upon the Interest of their Patrimony, or what they had acquir'd. The improvements made in *Ireland* by reducing of Interest, would be also some inducement to take up with a retreat here if they quit business.

IN our Trade, tho' we are depriv'd of the most beneficial part of the Woollen-Manufacture, yet we have many ways left open to employ Money to advantage. We have all the improvements to be made of Land by Fencing, Draining, Planting and Tillage; we have the Linnen and Hempen-Manufactures in all their Branches, a very extensive Trade: We may export Mettals Manufactur'd to any part of *Europe* and most parts of *Africa*: We may undertake the Fisheries, either Herring, White Fish, or the Whale Fishery: We may improve our Silks and Manufactures of Cotton for our home consumption; and afterwards by proper application may get them, at least in mixtures with Linnen, made a Branch of our foreign Trade: We may erect Magazines and Granaries, and be a sharer in the carrying Trade of the World: So that to the industrious a large scope is allow'd to employ all the Money and Stock it is probable *Ireland* will ever be master of, without going to reside in *England*. It will only be the indolent and lazy, and not the industrious, that will be inclin'd to leave us; and such Noble Families, and Men of fortune, as will always attend the Court and Circle of pleasure. These we find even now do go; and it will always be so, whether the generality of the People be rich or not: Since the Court is there, all
our

our redundant Cash not employ'd in Trade will be spent there; but that is no reason why we should not be in a Capacity and State of gaining more.

If this reasoning be just, and there be not more weighty objections than do occur to me; I think no time ought to be lost in reducing Interest: And tho' it mayn't be proper to lower it at once to a *Par* with *Britain*; yet we ought not to be easy 'till it be so, but lower it with the greatest dispatch that may in prudence be thought requisite to gain the end desir'd.

THE next Clog upon Trade I shall take notice of, is, the high Duties that are paid upon most of our exports and imports. Tho' this would be less burthensome to the Merchant, if the Interest of Money were reduced; and is not so prejudicial as high Interest, which accompanys a Merchant thro' his whole Trade; this affecting him only at the time of payment: Yet it is a very great prejudice to the Publick, and discouragement to the Merchant. Money in the Merchants hand never lies idle: The moment he receives it, he considers how he may lay it out with profit either at home or abroad; in buying up our Goods to answer foreign Markets; or in taking the advantage of cheap Markets abroad for what we want to consume at home, and also to carry to other places where they may be wanted and they find the Markets are higher; either way it is a gain to the Merchant and Kingdom. Every thing therefore that draws Money from the Merchant, prevents just so much Trade. It may be objected, that the Merchant does not suffer by these Duties, because he puts a suitable price upon his Goods. To this I answer, the price of the Goods may possibly make up the private loss of the Merchant; but it never can make a recompence to the Publick for that profit which the Nation would have had, by the briskness of Trade, in the mean time between the
 Merchants

Merchant's advancing Money for the Duty and his being paid for the Goods.

DUTIES, upon such exports as are to be encouraged, are extremely improper and highly prejudicial to Trade, for these further reasons. They fall upon the Husband-Man or Artificer, who raises or Manufactures Goods for export, and discourage industry and labour; for they either lower our Markets at home, or raise the price of our Commodities abroad, and so prevent a ready Market and quick Return.

It would therefore be advantagious to all Nations, who have the power to do it, to take off the Duties upon exported Commodities; except the primums of Manufactures, which can be wrought up at home and give employment to the Poor; for which they have a forreign Vent: And also all high Duties inwards, which affect the Merchant and incourage Running of Goods, even the Duties upon such things as are prejudicial when consum'd at home, provided they may again be re-exported to advantage; for every thing added to the Merchants charge upon Goods, in waste and Warehouse-Room &c. is a Clog to the carrying Trade, a Trade highly beneficial to all who deal in it. It is plain no drawback will answer the End, when a high Duty is upon Goods inwards; for the Interest of the Money the Merchant paid in Duties upon importation, untill the time the Goods are re-exported, is just so much loss to him, and in so far prevents Trade.

SINCE all Duties inwards, besides being disadvantageous to Trade, are found to lie at last upon the Consumer; and the landed Interest, the rich and luxurious pay the greatest part: The prudentest and best method of raising Taxes, and least expensive in Trading Countries that have many Ports to Guard, and of securing the Payment of the Duties, and preventing the frauds in Running them clandestinely, would be to take off all Port Duties, and
place

place the Taxes upon Land, Moveables and inland Excises.

THE Excises should be so proportion'd as to be laid partly upon necessaries, but only in such a Manner as would promote industry and Labour, in which the Poor would pay their reasonable proportion; and the remainder and greatest part be laid upon luxurious Eating, Drink, Dress, Furniture, Equipage, Gaming, &c.

WHERE the intention is to discourage the importation of foreign Goods prejudicial to the Publick, there to put high Licences and Excises upon them in the Retailers or Consumers hands; and if they are entirely prohibited, then to lay the penalty upon the Consumer or wherever found. Whatever proportion should be thought proper to be laid upon Land would have this conveniency, that those who have Fortunes and don't reside in their Country, would bear a proportion of the Taxes; which is not done when all Taxes are rais'd upon the Consumer by Duties and Excises. This method of Taxing would effectually promote Economy and Frugality in the rich, and Industry in the poor; when they found the Taxes only laid upon such necessaries as would oblige the Poor to apply their time to labour; and the remainder to lye upon the expensive and idle Consumers of their Wealth and Time.

A Regulation of this kind will no doubt be extremely hard, if not Impracticable to be procur'd in a Country, where most of the Duties are of the King's hereditary Revenue; even tho' an equivalent should be given to the Crown for them. However I thought it would not be improper to give the following Abstract of our Revenue at a medium of 6 Years ending Lady Day 1729: that I may shew how much of it falls upon Trade.

The

The total Revenue, at a Medium
of 6 Years ending Lady Day 1729, } *l. s. d.*
amounts to. 540562 18 3

Charge of Collection,
Light-Houses, Ca-
sualties, Premiums }
&c. 68655 13 5

Drawbacks, and Por-
tage Bills to Masters }
of Ships. 9498 7 1½

Drawbacks upon the }
additional Revenue. 4793 13 10½

Total Charge 82947 14 5

Total of the neat produce of the }
Revenue at said Medium. 457615 3 10

Of which general ium paid by Mer- chants in } on part of the He- reditary Revenue.	{	Customs	}	89164 16 4
		Inwards		
		Customs	}	33325 5 9½
		outwards		
		Imported	}	76790 11 9½
		Excise.		
		Prizage.		5131 8 4½

Light-House Duties, Fines, }
Seizures and Casualties. } 4010 14 9½

Total by Merchants, towards }
the Hereditary Revenue. } 208422 17 1

FH

MVSEVM

BRITANNICVM

Paid

l. s. d.

Brought forward

208422 17 1

Paid by Mer- chants in part of the additi- onal Reve- nue	}	on	Tobacco,	41600	1	10
			Wine,	16302	8	6
			Spirits,	12106	4	10½
			Muffin, East			
			India Goods,			
			Moloffes, Lin-	8615	19	4½
			nen and Yarn,			
			Callicoc, Tea,			
			Coffee, Cacao-			
			Nuts, Twine			
			and Cordage,			

Total, paid by Merchants,
towards the additional Re-
venue

78624 14 7

Total upon Trade

287047 11 8

The Here- ditary Revenue rais'd up- on Land, Inland Excise and Hearth- Money at a Medium as above.	}	by	Inland			
			Excise,	75554	0	6
			Ale Li-	8955	3	2
			cences,			
			Wine &			
			Strong	3772	1	6½
			Water			
			Licenses			
			Quit-	63552	19	11½
			Rents,			
			Hearth-	41947	9	6½
			Money,			

Total by Hereditary Revenue. 193781 14 9

E.

Total

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Total by Trade brought forward	287047	11	8
Total by Hereditary Revenue brought forwards	193781	14	9
By additional Excise.	59733	11	10
Total by Land, Excise and Hearth-Money,	253515	6	7
Total of the Revenue as above.	540562	18	3

Thus we see the Duties upon Trade exceed those upon Land, Hearth-Money and inland Excise, by the sum of 33532 *l.* 5 *s.* 1 *d.* and that the Duties upon Trade in the whole amount to 287047 *l.* 11 *s.* 8 *d.* the greatest part of which is ready Money out of the Merchants pocket, that is seldom repaid him by those he deals with, till a considerable time after; and tho' by the advanced price upon his goods, he is paid a large Interest for his Money; yet (as I have already observ'd) the Nation loses the benefit he would have made in the mean time by the quick Circulation of his Money, and the employment he would have given to the industrious Poor.

It may be said that the detriment is not so great to Trade, since in the additional, and great part of the hereditary Revenue, it is laid upon Commodities the consumption of which ought to be discountenanc'd, as Wines, Brandies, Tobacco, *East-India* goods, Silks and other foreign Goods and Manufactures, with which or as good we might be furnish'd at home. I allow this to be true: But mayn't the Payment of the Duties be contriv'd so as to ease the Merchant Importer, by taking from the Retailer or Consumer; the high Duties of such goods as are most liable to be run, much after the manner as now us'd by an imported account, when the Merchants do not make prompt payment, for which they are allow'd an abatement. By this method the Merchants would have

have more Money circulating thro' their hands; it would also in some measure lessen the temptation of running of goods, when the Merchants did not pay ready Money at importation; and they could then better afford giving them Store-house room, and make a gain upon Re-exportation, when they did not advance the Duty. For their further encouragement, I could wish that no Duty remain'd upon goods Re-exported: For this would by no means lessen the Duty upon goods consumed at home, but rather increase it, by employing a greater Number of Men and Ships, when we could furnish our Neighbours by our Navigation; and no Vessel should be allowed to Export them, but of such a Burthen as might Trade with advantage to some Country beyond the *British* Isles; and also give Bond, tho they enter'd for a foreign Port, to return sufficient Vouchers, the dangers of the Seas excepted, that the goods were landed at such or some other foreign Port; which would prevent their re-landing them upon our own, or *British* Coasts.

THE Merchants thus, not paying Duty upon Importation, ought to be accountable to the Officers of the Revenue for it, upon selling any of their goods to the Retailer or Consumer, that the Duty might not be lost. They that are allowed this privilege, ought to be Resident and of an establish'd Character, or be oblig'd to give resident Merchants sureties for the payment of the Duties. And they might either take the Duty from the Buyer upon Sale, if he were not well known, or their Books might be Vouchers against the persons to whom sold; and they should still be liable to the Duty, if it could not be come at in the retailers or consumers hands.

THIS would be some encouragement to the honest Merchant; the consumer would pay no more than at present for what he takes; and the Revenue would rather increase upon it than sink. The only
present

present disadvantage to the Revenue, would be the post-poning the Duties two or three Months ; but the briskness of Trade, and the prevention of the clandestine running of goods, would more than make amends for it. Tobacco, Brandies and Wines ought to have the Duties lower'd ; and the Retailers and Consumers of Wines and Brandies ought to be put under high Licenses, especially publick Taverns, or others retailing them ; and also all private Houses that take from a Whole-sale Merchant ; but not those who take from Taverns or Shops that pay high License. Every person also retailing Tobacco ought to pay a high License to make up the Duty taken off ; and no person using Tobacco or Snuff should be allow'd to buy from any Whole-sale Merchant, but only from those who take out such Licenses : And if any Whole-sale Merchant should sell to any person not Certify'd to be under License, let him be liable to a Premunire or some other severe penalty. Foreign Manufactures, and all other goods liable to be Run by reason of high Duties, ought to be treated after the same manner, in order to discourage their consumption ; and thus the legal Duties would be regularly paid.

I must own our present inland Excise upon Malt-Liquors is liable to great frauds, and attended with great expence : But if Excises were made more general, the expence would be less in proportion ; and the method here propos'd of levying the Duties upon Trade, might also be us'd in the Excise upon Malt-Liquors, with great benefit to the publick. For if the Excise were laid upon Malt, to be paid by those that bought from the Malster's, according to the proportion of Drink a Barrel of Malt would make, and that Barrel was determin'd and sold by weight, the Malster's Books being vouchers of the Sale, and the Malt view'd in his Hands, a considerable expence in the Salaries of Officers would be
fav'd,

fav'd, and the frauds now committed by the Retailers of Malt-Liquors would be avoided. To make the Tax payable by the Malster, would be attended with this inconveniency ; the Tax would not fall so much upon the consumer as upon the Farmer, and would therefore in effect be a Tax upon Land ; because the Malster would in a good measure deduct it from the price he now gives for Corn.

If such a method be thought feasible, there need be no alteration in the Taxes: And if new Taxes were at any time necessary, they might be laid upon luxury, Dress, Equipage and Gaming ; to be levy'd by way of Excise upon the consumer or Gamester. Thus by lowering of Interest, easing the Merchant, and by that means preventing a fraudulent Trade, I would not doubt to see our Commerce and industry increase ; and our present Revenue, without ever loading us with new Taxes, not only pay our Establishment, but afford a sufficient redundancy to his Majesty to bestow upon merit and services perform'd to the Crown and Kingdom.

It won't be improper here to consider the proportion our Taxes bear to those of *Britain*, with respect to our Wealth and Numbers. The funds appropriated to pay the debts in *Britain*, together with the Civil and Military List, Fleet, &c. amount at present to about six Millions ; and may be presum'd to continue so in time of peace, to reduce the debts the quicker by a larger sinking fund : And when the debts in *Britain* are entirely paid, the Taxes may be lessen'd to 2500000 *l*.

THE Taxes rais'd in *Ireland* amount to 540000 *l*. and the Taxes appropriated to pay our debt, may amount to 20000 *l*. more ; in all 560000 *l*. annually.

THE Number of People in *England* in 1690, was computed by the ingenious Mr. King at 5500520, being supposed at $4\frac{1}{16}$ to a Family ; which he computed

puted gain'd by their industry annually at a medium 7 l. 18 s. 0 per Head: So that the yearly income of *England* then was about 43500000 l. I have already observ'd, that since that time the Number of Houses in *England* may be presum'd to increase to 1600000; and since in *Ireland* there are computed at least 4.36 at a Medium to each Family; it may be reasonably suppos'd, by the greater Wealth and Riches in *England*, that there are five at a Medium to each Family there: Thus the Numbers in *England* would be eight Millions. And *Scotland* being added since 1707, we may add 1500000 more; so that there will be 9500000 persons in *Britain*. But since the Wealth of *North-Britain* is not proportional to the Wealth of *England*; instead of allowing the Yearly income of *Britain* to be 7 l. 18 s. 0 per Head, I will even lessen Mr King's computation and allow 7 l. per Head in *England*, and 4 l. per Head in *Scotland*: So that the annual income of *England* will be 56 Millions, of *Scotland* 6 Millions, and of both 62 Millions. And the Taxes at present rais'd, not exceeding 6 Millions, don't amount to the $\frac{1}{10}$ of their annual income; so that if their debts were paid, and their Taxes lower'd but to 3 Millions, they would then pay less than $\frac{1}{20}$ of their annual income.

AFTER the same manner, supposing the Numbers in *Ireland* to be 1670000, and 4 l. per annum per Head to be the income of each at a Medium, as I have allow'd in *North-Britain*; which is sufficient, considering the low way of living of the greatest Number of the People: Then the annual income of *Ireland* will be 6680000 l. and the general income of *Britain* and *Ireland* 68680000 l. and the Taxes of *Ireland* being 560000 l, *Ireland* at present pays more than $\frac{1}{12}$ of its annual income: Which is very near as much in proportion as *Britain* pays, notwithstanding its great debts: And since about 360000 l. more is drain'd out of the Kingdom by non-Residents,

denters, which is worse than so much paid in Taxes that would circulate among us; then *Ireland* pays almost $\frac{1}{4}$ of its annual Income.

DOCTOR *Davenant* computed from the best accounts he had, that the annual income of *France* before 1690 was about 84000000*l.* It may be suppos'd, by the Wars they had from that time to the peace of *Utrecht*, they could not increase in Wealth and Numbers, on account of their constant drain of Men and Money, and loss of Territory.

SHOULD we allow that their Trade and Peace since that time has added to their Wealth and Numbers; and so increas'd their annual income as much as that of *England* has been since Mr. *King's* Estimate, as I have computed it above, that is 12 Millions (which, considering the difference of government, is fully as much as can be suppos'd) Then their annual income now would be 96 Millions; and the Power and Wealth of *Britain*, including *Ireland*, would be above $\frac{1}{6}$ of the Power and Wealth of *France*; and by a due encouragement of our Trade and giving proper checks to that of *France*, might in time be brought to equal it.

FROM these Observations *Britain* may see that we cannot reasonably be higher taxed, unless we are encouraged by Trade to increase our Numbers and give them full employment. Some are of opinion that the way to make us most effectually add to the Power of *Britain*, would be by an equitable Union with them: That would soon increase our Numbers to 2 Millions; and our income *per Head* to 6*l.* somewhat short of the income in *England per Head*, being at a distance from the Capital. Then our annual income would be 12 Millions: At which time we could as easily bear a Million to be rais'd upon us in Taxes, as we now can 560000*l.* the $\frac{1}{2}$ of which would be enough for our Establishment; and then *Britain* might have from us 500000*l.*

to

to be employ'd in defence of them; their Colonies and Trade, and might lessen in proportion many of their Taxes in time of Peace, which would be an immense benefit to them.

ANOTHER clog upon Trade is the tediousness and expence of Law-suits: This is indeed a general grievance, and I am afraid increasing every Day; which, with the intricacy and querks made use of in proceedings at Law, and the Voluminousness of our Laws, make them a grievance to the subject; tho' we enjoy the happiest Constitution upon earth. Our Laws, fram'd by our own consent for the preservation of our rights and properties, and design'd that every subject should obtain speedy and effectual justice, are by our inadvertency and want of care so perverted, that a stranger would think they were calculated to aggrandize the Professors and Officers of the Law at the expence of those who demand justice and the preservation or recovery of their rights and properties.

THAT Lawyer is accounted the greatest Man, who if he happens to be employed in a wrong cause can skreen his Client by concealing the weakness of his cause, and making it appear before the Judge in such a Light, that error and injustice may have the appearance of truth and justice.

As I never was a Proficient in the Law, it can't be expected that I should be able to apply the most proper Remedies to so great an evil: But were I to propose any, it would be to shorten the Process of our Courts of Equity, and forbid the affected delays of Masters and Remembrancers in those Courts, under severe penalties, to be recover'd by the Person injur'd, by an Action of debt. And if any Lawyer or Attorney should support or defend his Client in a manifestly wrong or weak cause, the adverse party should recover damages from him, and he ought to be depriv'd of the benefit of his Profession

session and render'd incapable of acting in any Court of Law or Equity. But as this is in some measure foreign to my purpose, I shall only consider this Evil, as it more immediately concerns Trade.

THE time and Money which the Merchant employs in Law, is just so much lost to Trade: How carefull then ought we to be, to make Law as cheap and short as possible to Men whose time and Money is so precious to the Publick? For this purpose, I will only mention what *Sr. Josias Child* has already propos'd; that is, a Court-Merchant, which he would have to consist of 12 Judges, to be chosen by the Merchants of the Capital City out of their Body, part to be chosen annually; and that this Court should have a Power of determining, in a summary way, all differences concerning Trade; seven to be a Quorum, and their determination to be final. It might be proper to have one of the Judges or Recorder to sit with these Merchants; and to allow of a rehearing in case it be required. But for a fuller account of this, I must refer to that Authors Treatise upon Trade, where his reasons will fully convince every one of the benefit of it.

THE next thing I shall mention highly prejudicial to Trade, is, our Luxury and Extravagance in Food, Dress, Furniture and Equipage. This is one of the principal Sources of all our National evils. What is spent in Luxury, is just so much lost to the Nation in the way of Trade: For if it be in foreign commodities, it increases our imports; and if in the things of our own Country, which we have the liberty to send abroad, it lessens our Exports; if it be in things we are forbid to Export, it is so much labour lost that might have been usefully employ'd. This extravagance is the Root that ought to be struck at, before the Nation be ruin'd by its too exuberant growth. How can Trade flourish or the Nation grow rich, when the Number of the extra-

vagant exceeds the Frugal! From hence proceed all the hardships upon Trade; bad Payment, desperate Debts, litigious and dilatory Law-suits. Each person, from the highest to the lowest, is tainted with this pernicious vice. How many great and noble Families have been reduced and laid under the greatest difficultys by their Extravagance! And from their example, how do we see it at present prevail among persons of all lower and intermediate Ranks? even now Traders and Artificers think it no disgrace to run in debt and break by living at a higher rate then they can afford. Many now take up goods from Merchants and other industrious Traders, without any View or design of payment; but only to have a shew of business, that they may with more ease gain credit and impose upon others, in order to blaze a little with a borrow'd light; and thus they ruin the Poor industrious Inhabitants as well as themselves. How carefull then ought the publick to be, to think of methods to put a stop to the disease, before it turns Epidemical, and by proper sumptuary Laws lay the extravagant under some Difficulties, that may oblige them to be frugal! How meritorious would it be in persons of Rank and Wealth, to set examples of Frugality and Temperance to their inferiors! Would they Retrench their superfluous Number of Dishes and quantity of Wine, their Number of Servants and Horses, their variety of Dress and Furniture but a sixth part, and employ that Money to the improvement of the Kingdom, to encourage the industrious and employ the Poor; how advantagious that would be to the Publick, how much it would contribute to their own Health and Satisfaction, what a real pleasure it would be to see the Kingdom and their own fortunes improv'd to the benefit of their Posterity, to see the industrious Poor employ'd, and above the misery of want, none can describe but those who have

have contributed to it. How far different from this is the contrary way of living of the luxurious and indolent, who bring upon themselves want and diseases, repentance and remorse ; either seeing their Families reduced, or themselves by being Tenants for life, rendered incapable of paying their Debts, and so making other Families miserable ! How shocking this must be to all who believe Immortality and a future State, only those can know, who too late reflect upon it.

To cure this evil entirely, is not to be expected : All Trading Nations ever have been and will be in some measure infected with it : But tho' it is impracticable perfectly to heal it, it is in our power in a good measure to check and reform it. Two things very necessary for that purpose, I have already mention'd ; the lowering of Interest, and raising our Taxes by inland Excises. Both these would promote œconomy and Sobriety : Low Interest would lessen the income of the Idle ; and if our Taxes were levy'd by inland Excises, they would fall more upon the Consumer, and would thereby make Luxury more expensive. But the most effectual method of suppressing Luxury, would be to regulate the expences of living, according to the different Degrees and Ranks of Men. Such a Law, how ever useful, would I am afraid be extreamly difficult to be obtained ; and more so, to be put in execution. But, be this as it will, a Tax might be laid in general upon expensive Drefs ; especially such as is of foreign Manufacture ; and also upon Equipage, rich House-hold Furniture, and several other things not necessary to be particularly mention'd.

THERE is another prevailing Vice among us, that is of exceeding bad consequence to the Publick, and the most enormous in it's Consequences that any Nation can be guilty of ; I mean gaming. Let us consider the Nature and tendency of it, of how many

other Crimes it is the parent: Murthers, Robberies and Thefts, Crimes of the first Magnitude are it's genuine Off-spring. It is also an occasion of a complication of passions of quite different Natures. We find Gamesters by habit turn Cholerick or Peevish, Remorseless and without Compassion. The height of their joy and pleasure is to see others ruin'd, and in the utmost anxiety and concern. How lost and misspent is their time! Night turn'd into Day; and the Frame of Nature in a manner unhing'd! This is but a sample of the many inconveniences arising from gaming. For these reasons, I think, the publick ought to take great care to prevent the excess of it; and even to Tax it, when us'd only for recreation. This last we wisely did last Session: But this was done mostly with a view of raising a fund, and not of banishing the vice. I do therefore think it would be convenient, that no Games absolutely of chance should be allow'd, under a severe penalty, but in the presence of the Groom-Porter; and that never later than 12 at Night, under the forfeiture of his Employment. That every publick House, where any other kind of Gaming is allow'd, be oblig'd to take out Licence and enter into recognizance, not to transgress the Law by allowing any to play later, at the other Games allow'd, than twelve at Night. And since the only way to prevent the meaner sort of people's inclining that way is, to make it as expensive as possible: I am perswaded a smart Tax, by way of License to Game in private Families, would be the most effectually method; could such a thing be obtain'd.

THESE and such like Laws would make us more frugal; and those who would not be so, would pay something towards the improvement of their Country: For we have reason to believe, his Majesty would approve of appropriating such Taxes for the improvement of the Trade and Fisheries of *Ireland*, from the late instance of his goodness in allowing us

Taxes

Taxes of the same kind, for the incouragement of the Tillage and inland Navigation of this Kingdom, upon our supporting his Establishment with other Taxes. This would lead us in time into other beneficial Regulations for the good of our Country and Posterity.

ANOTHER evil, very necessary to be remedied, is the Idleness of our Poor. The hurt this Kingdom suffers from the Number of idle and sturdy Vagrants, is greater than is commonly imagin'd. It is not easy to give a detail of the several Arts and Stratagems they use, to induce the opulent and industrious to be Charitable to them. They are an oppression to the truly industrious Poor, who endeavour to maintain their Families and support the Publick; from whom they extort something out of compassion, and frequently where they find Women alone, by force. They appear in various forms; mostly affected, or brought upon them by particular management; as Blind, Lame, Dumb, Distorted, with running Sores, pretended Fits, and other Disorders. They frequently pretend loss by Fire, or to have numerous Families lying sick. They exercise the greatest Barbarities upon Children, either their own or those they pick up; by blinding them, or breaking and disjoynting their Limbs when they are young, to make them objects of compassion and charity. Not to mention their debauching the Girls when grown up; who go about Bigg-belly'd, pretending their Husbands are dead or sick, and they have them to maintain: Nor the Robberies and Thefts they commit; and the Lewdness, Debauchery and Drunkenness that is to be found among them in their Merry-meetings. And to sum up all; imagine the most complicated scene of wickedness in low life, and it will be found among them.

BUT this is not all; the hardships they put upon those who are real Objects of compassion, almost equal

qual their other crimes: For by the Behaviour and Tricks of these Vagrants, the Relief and Charity due to the industrious Poor is so cool'd by not knowing where to dispose of it properly, that the real Objects are often left without Relief. With many it is a moot point, whither it be not a greater Duty to the Publick, and Charity to the industrious Poor, not to give to Strolling Beggars, than to give, tho' there are Objects of compassion among them: For these could not fail of Relief if they staid where they were known; but because they strole about with others, where it can't be known who are the real Objects of compassion, they ought to be deem'd equally Cheats with the others, this giving encouragement to other idle and dissolute persons to joyn them, and propagate a Race of Thieves and Robbers; and they and their ill educated Progeny diffusing the contagion of Idleness and Sloth over all the Country.

It is not only the Money, Provisions and Cloathing they get from the Rich and Industrious, and the many irregularities they commit, that is destructive to the Nation; but the want of their Labour is a very considerable loss to the Publick: Of which I will here make a gross estimate. There are 2295 Parishes in the Kingdom; I think I am within Bounds when I suppose 10 Vagrants begging in each Parish, at a Medium the whole Year round, and above 30 for 3 or 4 Months in Summer; when many more come abroad: For many Parishes are so large as to take them 3 or 4 Days to beg thro' the Parish; and yet few House-keepers have less than that Number at their Doors, according to the time of Year, unless in very plentiful Seasons: So that we may compute the Medium in each Parish for the whole Year at 15; and consequently there are 34425 strolling Beggars in the Kingdom; of which there are not 1 in 10 real Objects: For the greatest Number of these stay
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in their Parishes. So that we may suppose 30000 of them able to work; and computing their Labour at 4 *d.* per Day, and allowing 284 working Days in the Year, each might gain by their work 4 *l.* 14 *s.* 8 *d.* per annum: this upon the whole Number would amount to 142000 *l.* annually, which is just so much Money lost to the Kingdom in the way of Trade.

To make this Article somewhat clearer, I will shew how the above increase of Beggars happens in the Summer Season; it is very well known that great Numbers of the Native *Irish* in the Mountainous parts of the Kingdom, that have Houses and small Farms, by which they might very well Maintain themselves, when they have sown their Corn, planted their Potatoes and cut their Turf for Firing, do either hire out their Cows or send them to the Mountains, then shut up their Doors and go a begging the whole Summer until Harvest, with their Wives and Children, in the most tatter'd and moving Condition they can appear in, and disperse themselves over all the richest parts of the Kingdom. This practice has been so much encourag'd of late by the success these Strolers have met with, that in several places many who pay at least 4 *l.* per annum Rent, Hire 3 or 4 Servants and give to each of them 3 *l.* for their chance of the Summers begging. These have their fix'd Stations from time to time, where to beg and where to Rendezvous to divide their Booty; having Houses appointed where they pay for their lodging, and give a gratuity for being assisted in disposing of the Meal or any thing else they get by begging or stealing. These servants are accountable to their Masters out of their wages, if they are found out to Imbezle or Drink any where at their expence; thus they pick up enough to pay their Rent, and by the help of their Cattle, Corn and Potatoes live Idle the whole Winter: These are facts undeniable, some having been caught who have confess'd this whole matter. SINCE

SINCE this Trade of begging has become so general, and proves so easy and beneficial to them, it has been known that Servants have quit their Service and have gone a Stroling with them, and Day Labourers have quit their Labour and refus'd to be employ'd; giving it for a reason that they get more by begging than they get by working: And the Children of many small Farmers, tho they are settled in Farms where they may live comfortably, have frequently so little conscience as to allow their parents, when grown old, to go about as Vagrants; without giving them any more relief than they would give to common beggars. Sure these are abuses not to be suffer'd in a civiliz'd Country. Our Laws tho good are disus'd and neglected for want of sufficient penalties. Should any particular Justice of the Peace exert himself now, in executing the Laws against them, by having them whip'd out of the Parish he resides in, it would be of no benefit, since others wont do the same; he would only lose the good will of the Country by it, and be call'd cruel and severe. If he inclined send them to the House of Correction; I may say, that thro' disuse there is no such House now to be found: It seems at this time to be look'd upon only as a favour, granted by the County, to some Person who has sufficient Interest to have his Family maintain'd and his House repair'd at the publick expence; for Vagabonds are no sooner sent in, but they are allow'd to run away again, in case they have any Bribe to give, or if not, it is too much trouble to the Master to oblige them to work, so he connives at their escape, and makes Interest enough not to be call'd to account at the next Quarter Sessions. Thus our Laws are at present evaded and their execution Slubber'd over.

I think I need not give many reasons here, why we ought effectually to supply the necessities of the aged

aged and others who are not capable of Maintaining themselves ; provided they are willing, to the utmost of their Strength and Ability, to contribute to their own support. This is self evident: Riches and Abundance tho' they are natural consequences of Industry and Frugality, yet they are the gift of God Almighty : Which notwithstanding our prudence and care, or want of either, are frequently increas'd or diminish'd unaccountably to us. As these are fleeting and transient ; we know not when we ourselves or Families may be reduc'd to want by losses and infirmities: And according to the Golden-Rule of doing as we would be done to, we are out of our abundance to contribute to the wants of others, when it is consistent with the good of the Publick ; that is, to those who are willing to do their utmost for their own support ; and not to those who can in great measure support themselves, but will not, choosing rather to live upon the Industrious.

SINCE then we are highly oblig'd to provide a remedy for these evils, both by our duty to God Almighty, in relieving the necessitous Poor ; and to our Country, in effectually suppressing the evil practices of the idle lazy Vagrants, and others who are guilty of the greatest crimes, as also to enable and oblige them (to the utmost of their power) to contribute to their own support ; I shall with great submission offer here what I think may contribute effectually to suppress the Idleness of the one, by giving them employment, and relieve the other. That is to pass a Law to enable the Inhabitants of Cities and great Towns with a considerable District round them, who are willing, and also in the Country, as many Parishes as will voluntarily joyn together, to associate and incorporate themselves, and choose Trustees annually to oversee, relieve and employ the Poor, and to prevent any Stroling Vagrants from begging within their Bounds : Giving the People in

each of those Districts, who voluntarily joyn together, a Power to raise Money by Taxing themselves, and receiving from persons charitably dispos'd Sums of Money to erect a Work-house for employing and relieving the Poor. This ought to be Built in the most convenient place; to have Divine Service near them, and other conveniences, such as Fire and Diet at reasonable rates, and also where Materials to employ them may be had most conveniently. They should have power also to raise Money in their District, to pay a Steward to oversee and take care of the Poor in the Work-house, and give them proper Food in proportion as the Overseers of the Poor shall direct. A Bill of fare should be settled of the Quantity and Quality of the Meat allow'd to the Poor; by which means no surcharge of Meat could be fix'd upon the District. They should also have power to tax themselves with a limited Sum annually, in proportion to the value of their Lands or substance, to maintain the Poor in the Work-house, and furnish them with materials to work upon. Every person in the House should have their Working Hours assign'd them by the Overseers, and the Quantity of work expected from them daily, according to their Age and Strength, and the kind of work in which they are to be employ'd, should be enter'd regularly in a Book kept by the Overseers. The Steward should be accountable for the performance of these Tasks to the Overseers at their Quarterly or Monthly Meetings: And if any fail'd of their Tasks, unless occasion'd by Sickness, he ought to deduct in proportion from their Bill of fare at their Meals. There ought to be a Vault in each Work-house, for the punishment of such as are guilty of Crimes, and the confinement of the Stroling Poor found begging in their District, who may be oblig'd to work all Day at some laborious work and have no more Food than what they can gain by their labour.

labour. There may also be a Pump-house or something equivalent in each, to punish those who are wilfully Idle: Where being chain'd by the Foot they must either Pump or be drown'd.

To each of these Work-houses a Plot of ground ought to be annex'd for Gardening, and to promote some little Improvements in Husbandry and Tillage: Where some of the Old Men might employ part of their time in Digging, Weeding and Planting, and to employ and Train up Children and helpless Orphans belonging to or found in the District. A power may be also given to Tenants for Life, in whose Estate perhaps the Work-house may be erected most conveniently; to give in fee Farms as much ground as may be thought necessary upon reasonable Terms; or to make a Gift of it to the Poor upon their assigning to the Persons in Remainder or in Trust for them, an Equivalent in Land or Money. The weekly Collections for the Poor of all Denominations of Christians in the several Parishes in the District ought to be lock'd up in close Boxes with several Locks, whereof the Overseers are to have the Keys, to be sent Monthly or Quarterly according to the meeting of the Trustees at the Work-house, to be distributed for the use of the Poor there. In each Work-house they ought also to have a Box fix'd up, in which such as come to Visit the Poor, might put what they thought proper without having their Charity known.

A method us'd in *Holland* might also be put in practice: Which is, instead of giving Vales to Servants, to have a Box fix'd up in every House; in which those that come in a Visit shew their respect for the Family, by putting in something as their Charity prompts them for the use of the Poor. At the end of the Year, the Box is carry'd to the Magistrate and open'd in his presence, and the Money given to the Poor. This would testify the Regard and Re-

spect shew'd to the Family by their friends and Neighbours, better than by giving Vales to Servants, who generally quarrel about it, and squander lightly what they get that way, and get a habit of drinking and profuseness destructive to themselves and others. It would also be better for all Masters to add something to their Servants Wages, which they would reap more Benefit from and apply to a better use than the other.

THE Justices of the Peace and Clergy in each District, or those in the Neighbour-hood, may have an equal or superior power to the Overseers of the Poor where any Work-house is erected, to inquire and look into their accounts; and to see that the Poor are employ'd and duely supply'd, so that no hardships be put upon them; this they may do at the Quarterly Meetings; and should under a penalty be oblig'd to do it at least twice a Year. In case any of the Overseers neglect attending on the Days fix'd by Law, either Monthly or Quarterly, unless in case of sickness or unavoidable necessity, they ought to be fin'd, by the Justices and Clergy present, in a limited Sum to the use of the Poor. If the Tax (allow'd to be levy'd from the District by Law) with the voluntary and charitable Collections and Contributions and the Work of the Poor, be more than sufficient to maintain them and keep the House in Repair, at the end of the Year, then the Tax may be lessen'd. If it is not sufficient, then the Overseers ought to lay the accounts and deficiency in a proper Manner before the Assemblies of Christians of all Denominations, at their highest Festivals; when it may be suppos'd they will more readily contribute to the Relief of the Poor, and make up the deficiency, when the District is overcharg'd, without adding to the Tax. But in case all they can procure is not sufficient; then they ought to
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allow some of them to beg thro' the District and have Lodging in the Work-house.

It would be of great benefit and have a very good effect, if the Legislature should direct that the Judges at the Assizes and Justices at the Sessions, should regulate and limit all forfeited Recognizances, according to the circumstances of the persons and Nature of the Crimes, either of the parties and their Securities prosecuting, or of those defending; and order out warrants immediately to levy the respective forfeitures from the parties, and give them to the Overseers of the Poor in those Work-houses, that were found to be overcharg'd upon the examining the accounts before the grand Jury. And whatever Sum the Barons of the Exchequer could make appear came to the Crown at a Medium of several Years, may be given to his Majesty by another Tax; which I imagine would be very small. For since Light-house Duties, Fines, Seizures and Casualties come at a Medium of six Years, but to 4010 *l.* 14 *s.* 9½ I am apt to believe the Money coming to his Majesty by forfeited Recognizances won't come up to ⅕ part of that Sum; which would be but a small loss considering the benefit to be reap'd from it by relieving the Poor, and having all Tryals better attended; and that many would be reliev'd from the hardships they now lye under, who are in the Green-wax process or upon the Capias, perhaps their whole Lives in Fee with Bailiff's; and if any are taken, upon giving the value of the Recognizance to Attornies and the Officers of the Court of Exchequer, the King's fine is reduc'd to a trifle, whilst the person apprehended, at the same time, has been worry'd to Death by a pack of Bailiff's and Country Attornies.

THE Trustees of the Linnen-Manufacture might also contribute to the support of the several Work-houses; by procuring them Hemp and Flax and
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their Seeds at reasonable prices : For now, when Flax-seed is imported at 2 *l.* 4 *s.* 0 *d.* per Hoghead, by the time it comes to be sold to the Poor, it frequently costs them from 3 *l.* 10 *s.* 0 *d.* to 4 *l.* 18 *s.* 0 *d.* They might also oblige those who take a quantity of Seed from them, to give the several Work-houses Hemp or Flax at a reasonable price after it is pull'd or water'd. Since the Legislature thought it proper some time ago to limit the Tythe of Hemp and Flax, I dont think it would be any hardship to give a proportion of the Tythe of Hemp and Flax to each Work-house in kind : For since the Mosaical Law, upon which our Law for Tythe is founded, order'd the whole Tythe of each third Year to be divided among the Levites, the Strangers, Fatherless and Widows ; I dont think the Clergy would at all complain, if only a part of that Branch were given to the Poor instead of the Tythe Farmers.

THE Publick might also reap a further benefit from the several Work-houses, by having Charity-Schools annex'd to them : Where, by voluntary Subscriptions, a Master might attend to teach the Children or Orphans in the District maintain'd by the Subscribers, as well as those in the Poor-house, to Read and Write, and instruct them in the Principles of the Christian Religion. Two or three Hours every Day would be sufficient for their instruction ; and they might be employ'd the remaining part of the Day in Learning to Work whatever was proper ; the Girles in sowing, spinning, knitting or cleaning the House ; and the Boys in spinning, net-making, gardening, planting, or any other improvement in Husbandry, their little Farm could afford. This would employ the time of many Children profitably to the publick, who are now bred up to Idleness or attending of Cattle. This would also give them a Taste and inclination for Improvements, and to be industrious : For whatever they gain'd by their Labour,

Labour, should be their own. This would make them early qualify'd for service, and preserve their Morals; or put them into a method of maintaining themselves when grown up, with Comfort and Satisfaction.

SINCE the Law, I here propose, is no way compulsory, but only Impowers such Parishes, as are willing, to associate and incorporate, in order to supply their Poor, and prevent Stroling Beggars; until such time as they are willing to put this in Execution, I do think that several Overseers should be chosen annually in each Parish, according to the extent of the several Parishes, living at proper distances in each of them: These to be elected by the Majority of each Parish at their Easter Vestry, under the penalty of a Fine upon every Parish neglecting to elect them, or upon those who refuse to serve, being elected; to be levy'd by the warrant of two neighbouring Justices of the peace, and apply'd to the use of the Poor. The Overseers, immediately upon entering into their Office, ought to make out Lists of their resident Poor, who have been three Years in the Parish; and give them Badges, and allow them to beg thro' the Parish. In case some of them be able to Maintain themselves in part, then by their Badges to shew on what Days of the Week they are allow'd to beg; obliging them to work the remainder. The several Overseers may have a power to Correct their Poor, who will not comply with the Regulations laid down, by neglecting to wear their Badge, or begging on Days design'd for work, without any application to a Justice of the peace. And if the next Overseer neglects or refuses to punish upon complaint of any Parishioner; such Overseer ought to be fin'd by the next Justice, upon due proof, for the use of the Poor.

THE first three Sundays, which shall happen after the general Election of the Overseers through the Kingdom,

Kingdom, they should be oblig'd to have a Proclamation made in every place of Divine-Service of whatever Denomination within each Parish, and in all Markets and Fairs which may happen in these 3 weeks, within their several Parishes ; that upon a certain Day (to be fixed by the Law) a diligent search is to be made for all Vagrant Persons or Strolling Beggars, who have not been 3 Years resident in any Parish ; and if any be found, not being mad, Ideots, or Children, or by unavoidable lameness incapable of removing themselves, and do not in the prefixed time remove themselves to the Parish where they were last resident, or in which they were born, if never resident any where, that such persons are to be whipt (according to their several Ages or infirmities as they are able to bear it) towards the Parish they have declar'd themselves to have severally been born or resident in ; and in case they have neither been resident in the Kingdom, nor Natives, then to the next Sea-port, to be Shipt off to their Native Kingdom, with a Ticket along with them setting forth what Parish or Kingdom they declar'd they belong'd to. In case any person should conceal any Stranger, Vagrant, or Strolling Beggar, at that time ; or upon discovery afterwards of any Beggar, should not immediately inform the next Overseer, in order to his being punish'd, such person ought to be fin'd by the next Justice in a Sum limited by the Law ; according to the circumstances of the person. Or in case any Overseer at any time afterwards should neglect to whip them to the next Parish, he ought to be fin'd in like manner ; for the use of the Poor.

THOSE Beggars who cannot remove themselves, may be convey'd from Overseer to Overseer, towards their place of Birth or last abode : In case afterwards any House-keeper relieves any Strolling Beggar, and dont inform the next Overseer, upon due proof thereof, such House-keeper should be fin'd.

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IN case of Ship-wreck, the Overseers, at the cost of each Parish, may be oblig'd to convey such Sailors or Passengers as are sav'd, to the next Parish leading to such Port or place they would go to, in case they are Natives; or if not, then to the next Port they can procure passage at; and to deliver along with them from Overseer to Overseer, an Authentick Paper setting forth the Ship-wreck, when and where it happen'd, and where the Persons desire to go.

IF any stroling Beggars happen to have Children begging with them, under the Age of 16, or any Children be found begging by themselves; the next Overseer may be oblig'd to carry them to a Justice of the Peace, who may bind them Apprentices to any Protestant House-keeper that can and will employ them; until they attain the Age of 25 Years; to be computed from the apparent Age of the Child when taken up, when the Age is not known: And some Collar or Badge should be worn by such Children, not easy to be defaced or removed, until their Masters think there is no danger of their running away: By this they may be known and secur'd, sent back and punish'd, in case they run away.

IT would also be expedient that all private House-keepers in the Country should be answerable for any Lodgers or Inmates who are Strangers, and don't follow some constant business, or keep regular company and Hours; in case they are in such Circumstances, or of such a character as to occasion a suspicion in the Neighbourhood; of which at their peril they ought to acquaint the Overseers; or be oblig'd to make good the Thefts and Robberies committed in the Neighbourhood: In case they did not, the Overseer upon any suspicion should apprehend them, and carry them before the next Justice; and if any Person be found not to follow some lawfull calling that could Maintain them and fully employ their time, such persons should be committed,

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if they did not find sufficient Sureties of their good behaviour, and afterwards be Transported; and the House-keepers where they lodg'd should be fin'd.

PUBLICK Houses in the Country for Entertainment of Passengers, should not, under a penalty, entertain any Strangers who may occasion suspicion, above 48 Hours (unless Travellers upon a Journey, who by sickness, or some accident of their Horses, are detain'd; or except in time of publick Fairs and Markets) without giving an account of them to the Overseers; and if there be any reasonable cause of suspicion, the Overseers are to inform the next Justice, who in case they cant give a good account of themselves, may bind them over to their good behaviour; or commit them, until they produce some evidence of their good Character.

SINCE a great encouragement is given to the practice of stealing of Horses, by allowing of Private Bargains, Sales or Handy-caps made clandestinely by persons in their Cups; by which means the property is easily and quickly trans-ferr'd thro' many Hands, and the Horses are carry'd from one part of the Kingdom to another; and since it is also an encouragement to cheating, lying, squandring and misspending their time; it being too commonly accounted a piece of Merit, and a mark of superiour understanding, to cheat and impose upon the weaker and honefter part of mankind in their Liquor, who believe the Lyes and falsities then affirm'd to them; I think it would be of publick service, to make a Law, that no Bargain at such a time and place should be binding; but that either party upon Tryal, should have Liberty to recant in 48 Hours: Or that no Bargain for Horses should be valid, but where the Sale is Booked and the Horses vouch'd; And if any person at any time sold a Horse, upholding him for a sound Horse, knowing him to be unsound; in either of these cases, the next Justice, or two Justices might in a summary way

way hear and Determine the affair; and oblige the guilty person to refund the Money or Horse got in exchange for the other, or otherwise commit him.

I think also, no person being a stranger, ought to sell a Horse but in open Market: This may be prevented by putting a Fine both upon buyer and seller. If a stranger be found sculking with Horses in the Country, the Overseers of the Poor may apprehend him, and carry him before the next Justice; who upon reasonable cause of suspicion may have the Horses secur'd for some Days, and the Marks taken; that the person may be apprehended in case a Felony has been committed. If any Horse be carry'd to any Port to be exported, no Master of a Vessel under the forfeiture of such Vessel or Boat, should take any on board, until they have been at least 4 Days publicly at such Port; that time may be allow'd for a pursuit in case of a Felony; unless it be a Gentleman for his own and Servants Horses, at the usual Ports of Passage.

I could wish, that our Punishments for common Felonies of Theft, and Petty Larcency were alter'd; and that the guilty were confin'd to such Work-houses as I have propos'd, for a determin'd time, according to their crimes; with Collars and Iron Cuffs upon their Necks and Arms; or otherwise chain'd, if they were dangerous Offenders: Where they should be employ'd and task'd in the hardest labour; such as rasping of Wood, beating of Hemp and Flax &c. And whatever they gain'd more than sufficient for a bare Maintenance, might go to the use of the other Poor.

THIS would be a greater Terrour to them than Death; and more Thieves would be convicted, and the Publick would receive the Benefit of their Labour; and when they had wrought out their Time, they could not again Strole upon being let out; but would be fix'd in some Parish, where they would be known

and well look'd after ; for they could not get away, without being secur'd by the Overseers of the Poor in the neighbouring Parishes ; who would again lay them up in a Work-house. This would also be more honourable for the Nation ; since we are reproached abroad, with frequently letting those guilty of Blood escape ; when at the same time we punish Capitally those who are guilty of common Theft.

By such a Law further improv'd, and duely executed, all our Poor may be maintain'd, without the apprehension of an unreasonable Poor Tax ; being not compulsory, but in the power of each united District to limit, as they think proper, but never to exceed. Thus may the Poor be kept employ'd, Idiots and Lunaticks be taken care of, the Aged and infirm have their due and regular Hours for Devotion, Food, Labour and Rest, a great encouragement be given to others to be industrious, by having no further Drain upon them by the useless members of the Common-wealth, and in case of misfortunes, having reason to expect a calm retreat in their old Age. By such a Law would also many Thefts and Robberies be prevented, suspicious persons would be put upon some way of employing their time, or be punish'd ; strolers and all Vagrant Beggars would be confin'd, and oblig'd to work as they were capable ; and many other considerable advantages would be gain'd by the Publick.

I have thus gone thro' the three Articles I proposed, of easing the Merchant as much as possible, promoting œconomy and frugality, by Sumptuary Laws, and proposing methods to employ the Poor : Each of which, I think, very necessary to our improvements at home, as well as of our Trade abroad ; because they lessen our demand for foreign Commodities, and afford us more Exports to answer our foreign Demands : Since it is impossible to pretend to trade with any Nation without taking their

their Goods in return for ours ; the only thing to be aim'd at by foreign Trade, is, upon the exchange of our own for theirs, to preserve a reasonable Ballance in our favour, and if possible to supply other Nations, who mayn't have a demand for our goods, with those of other Countries ; and so gain by the exchange and Carriage.

IT is a very usual way both in *Britain* and in this Kingdom, to promote Trade, and incourage Merchants to export some of our perishable Commodities, and to import such as are beneficial to the Kingdom, in our Manufactures and Navigation, by giving Premiums ; particularly in exporting Grain, and importing Pitch, Tar, Flax-seed, &c. I shall therefore beg leave to make some Observations upon the nature and use of premiums in Trade.

A premium, is a sum of Money given to the Merchant, upon exporting, or importing a determin'd kind of Goods, in proportion to the quantity exported or imported ; Payable out of the publick Taxes, or any particular Branch of them, at the pleasure of the Legislature. The use and design of it is, to inable and incourage Merchants to export some particular species of goods, of the Produce, Growth, or Manufacture of the Kingdom, which will not otherwise sell abroad, by reason that the Price abroad is so little different from the Price at home, that it won't bear the expense of Freight ; or to import some Goods wanted in the Kingdom ; which are necessary for the safety of it, or useful to their Manufactures or Shipping.

THIS Premium, if paid out of the publick Taxes, is in effect no more than part Payment of the Wages of the Manufacturer, Artizan, or Farmer, made by others not concern'd in their Labour, in such proportion as they pay towards the Tax given for such Premium ; which, if given upon the *Primums* of Manufactures imported, to enable the Merchant to
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afford them cheaper, then more can be allow'd to the Manufacturer for his Labour: Or if given upon Goods exported, to keep up the Market at home, it will equally afford more Wages to the Labourer, or persons employ'd in raising or manufacturing them. If a premium is paid out of a particular Tax, then it is paid at the Expense of that particular Branch, or species of Goods, upon which the Tax is laid.

HAVING thus far stated the nature and use of Premiums, I will consider how far they may be beneficial or detrimental to the Trade and Wealth of the Kingdom. First, as to exports; tho' the quantity of Goods exported, and price abroad, are both necessary to return a ballance in favour of the Nation, yet we ought to distinguish and make a difference. The difference of the Price abroad above the Price at home, is the Merchant Exporter's immediate profit, as well as the Nation's: The quantity exported, at the price in the Market at home, is the National profit divided among the several Persons raising or manufacturing the Goods sent abroad. Then, tho' the great price going abroad, by supplying foreign Markets sparingly upon exporting fewer Goods, be a National benefit and great advantage to the Merchant; yet a much greater quantity of goods sold abroad, tho' at a lower price and less profit to the Merchant, as long as he has profit enough to carry on the Trade, is undoubtedly of greater benefit to the Nation, particularly if Manufactures; they being the occasion of maintaining and employing so many more Hands at home with profit, which is the real strength and riches of a state. The Merchants are also more capable of underselling other Nations abroad; and consequently will have a Market open for a greater quantity of goods.

PREMIUMS then given upon exporting Manufactures, which employ most hands, and by being improv'd may contribute to a more extended Commerce,
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are highly beneficial to a Kingdom, in the infancy of a Manufacture, to incourage the Manufacturers to exert themselves in the improvement of it. In such a Case, the Premium, tho' laid upon the Publick, is beneficial to the State; since all ought to contribute to improve a Branch of Trade, which would be of general Benefit to a Nation: Such are Manufactures of Silk, Woollen, Linnen, Iron, Brass &c.

PREMIUMS given as an incouragement for such Goods as are of the growth of the Kingdom, which require few hands to raise them, and no great labour after being rais'd before they are exported, may be detrimental but seldom beneficial. If they are given upon the Publick Taxes, the Manufacturers, who are or ought to be the greatest Number, pay their proportion of them which consequently obliges them to work for less wages, or to raise their price: If the first, it discourages manufacturing at home; if otherwise, it prejudices their sale abroad. If they should be given by a particular Tax laid upon goods imported, which are in themselves detrimental to the Kingdom, and only serve to increase Luxury and prodigality, the detriment is less: But these Taxes might be better employ'd in more useful Premiums, or in lessening other Taxes which bear hard upon Trade.

PREMIUMS given upon exporting the produce of the Kingdom by grazing, such as Beef, Butter, Hides, Tallow, Wool, Flax &c, would be the most prejudicial and greatest detriment possible: An inconsiderable Number, in a manner without employment, reaping the benefit; and all the Industrious in the Community paying for it.

THE reverse of this ought to be practis'd in Imports; Premiums upon any kind of Manufactures would be madness in the highest degree; and none pardonable except Premiums for the *Primus* of Manufactures, which otherwise could not be carry'd

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on with advantage, or for those things wanted for the safety or shipping of a Nation.

PREMIUMS of all kinds ought to be carefully inquir'd into, before they are granted by the Publick: When they are given, care ought to be taken, that the Labourer and Manufacturer have the benefit of the Premium, and that the luxurious and rich pay the Tax. This is the way to keep the poor employ'd, and to prevent the Rich from growing Extravagant.

WHILST I am upon the Nature of premiums, I hope it won't be improper, to offer my thoughts of those given for exporting of Grain, when under a middle price; as is now practis'd in *Britain*, and *Ireland*. This I take to be very prejudicial upon many accounts, either in those Countries which have a redundancy; or in those which may sometimes want, tho' at other times they abound. It is certain, no Nation who have as much of their own as they can consume, will take Grain from us upon any Premium that can be given, to enable the Exporter to afford it cheap abroad; unless they expect a scarcity among themselves or Neighbours, whom they hope to supply, at an advanced price, with the Grain imported to them.

IN those Countries which are populous, and have Manufactures, such as *Holland*, by affording them Grain as cheap imported to them as it is sold for at home, we enable them to work so much cheaper, to victual and sail their Ships for a less price, and consequently for less freight; and by this means they undersell us, or at least sell their Manufactures at *Par* with us abroad. This also encourages them to make Granaries, and to undersell us with our own Grain whenever Markets rise abroad; as well as to be earlyer at Market, having cargo's ready, at an Hour's-warning, and they often by their Granaries supply those Kingdoms, from which they had their Grain,

Grain, at a high Price when a scarcity happens; of which we have a very late instance.

THE Grain sown and reap'd in our Kingdom and the several Countries we Trade to, is either sufficient for the Consumption of the whole annually at a Medium, or more than sufficient: For if it be less, there is no occasion to give a Premium; the wants abroad or at home would effectually keep up the Price. If there is only a sufficient Quantity rais'd at a Medium, then to build Granaries at home, is the only prudent method can be taken for the Incouragement of the Farmer: By which means we can supply ourselves when it is wanted at home, and foreign Markets to advantage, when wanted abroad. If more is produced than sufficient at a Medium to supply our own and foreign demands, Premiums to Export it wont do; for who will take it tho' ever so cheap, unless they want it, or have a View to gain by the Sale of it; which then could not be expected. In such a case Land would be ill employ'd under Tillage, and less ought to be sown. Other Incouragements ought to be given to increase our Numbers to consume it; or we ought to employ our Lands to other purposes, such as gardening, planting or other improvements (which Land is capable of) as well as grain: If it should so abound, that would effectually keep up the Market, and nothing else would.

UPON the whole, Premiums are only to be given to incourage Manufactures or other Improvements in their infancy, to usher them into the World, and to give an Incouragement to begin a Commerce abroad; and if after their Improvement they can't push their own way, by being wrought so cheap as to sell at *Par* with others of the same kind, it is in vain to force it. In order to this, advantages may be given to Manufacturers at home, equivalent to Premiums upon the Export, by easing them of several troublesome Employments, making necessities,

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cheap to them, providing them the Primums of Manufactures cheap, preserving the possession of their Properties, and enabling them to recover them with little loss of time or expence. These and such like are the most effectual, the justest and safest Methods; and the Publick would soon reap the benefit of it.

SINCE I have already propos'd erecting and maintaining Granaries, as the only proper and effectual Incouragement to Tillage, and since they are at the same time equally advantageous to the Industrious Manufacturer and Labourer, by preventing the unreasonable Price of Provisions, this will be a proper place to enlarge upon that subject. The Nation that erects and possesses these Granaries, may in plentiful Seasons either lay up their own Grain, and preserve it safe from Vermin until a scarcity happens; or lay in Grain bought abroad, wherever they find there have been plentiful Crops and cheap Markets.

IT is a great happiness and blessing to any People to live in a Climate where by the temperature of the Air, and goodness of the Soil, they have plenty of Provisions. At the same time it is their interest, that the Price should not be so low as to discourage the Farmer to till and improve his Grounds; nor a temptation to others, by the plenty and cheapness of Provisions, to live idly and mispend their time, to the publick loss of the Kingdom.

THERE is an equitable Price that Provisions should be kept at as near as possible, to incourage both the Farmer and Manufacturer; that the one may improve his land and the other sell his Manufacture to advantage, and live comfortably by his Labour; and by that means may afford to sell at *Par* with other Nations abroad. This good end may be obtain'd by having Granaries, and Laws to regulate the Price at the buying in and selling out of them again: For by them, they can not only preserve their Grain safe
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from Vermin, but sound and sweet for many Years with very little Cost ; and always have the best Price for their Corn, when Markets rise abroad. And those Countries which have them (where, by their Situation or Number of Inhabitants, they can't be supply'd at home) by their buying cheap from those Countries who want Granaries, and for that reason are oblig'd to sell their Grain, will scarce ever want, when even those very Nations which supply them, by wanting Granaries, in bad Seasons may be lyable to Famine and great Distress.

NATIONS that want Granaries must only sow as much Grain as will be sufficient to supply them a Year, or be oblig'd to let their Corn perish, or sell it so cheap that the Merchant may have Profit in sending it abroad. Very often plentiful Crops happen to be general over a whole Continent, as it is frequently in *Europe* ; there would then be a necessity of selling it cheap or letting it perish. I have already endeavour'd to shew that it is imprudent to give Premiums to export Grain, in order to keep up the Market ; by which means Foreigners, who have Granaries, reap the benefit, furnish their Manufacturers and Trades-men cheaper than we can do, and often send it back again and sell it at an advanced Price to their great advantage. On the contrary should we build Granaries, we need not be afraid of improving our Lands and raising great Quantities of Grain : For then by having it in our power to keep it sound, sweet, and safe from Vermin many Years, we might always have the best Price going abroad ; and in case of bad Crops, might be under no apprehensions of want at home, or be forc'd to give a great Price for it abroad in our necessity. The abatement of Interest would also enable us to lodge it for a considerable time with little loss, by which means the Profit would be the greater upon the rise of the Market ; we would then have an opportunity

of exporting it upon the first Notice of a demand from abroad, whereas it frequently has happen'd, that tho' we had plentiful Harvests, when there was a demand abroad, and Merchants offer'd a considerable Price, the Farmers could not furnish a Cargo in time; but those Countries which had Granaries, tho' at a greater distance, answer'd the demand sooner, and prevented the Sale of ours. At other times the Farmers expecting a greater Price would not sell; and thus the Kingdom lost the benefit of the Market.

THIS being sufficient in general to shew the advantage of Granaries, I shall not launch out further least I seem tedious. But I hope I shall not be accounted so, in giving a short sketch of Granaries, according to the Plan us'd in some places abroad, with the Expense of building, and taking care of the Grain in them, to shew what advantage may be made by them in case private Persons or Merchants would joyn in the design.

GRANARIES abroad, when built to the best advantage, are generally 300 Foot long and 18 Foot wide within, and seven story high, for the greater conveniency of airing and Fanning the Corn from Loft to Loft. Each story is seven Foot high, the walls ought to be of good Brick, not plaister'd within, which is freer from Moisture and Vermin than other Buildings. The Corn is not laid within three Foot of the Wall, a path being left round it of that breadth, and one of six Foot wide in the middle across the length of the Room, to turn the Grain in when necessary. Each Floor has trap doors in several places, to take up Grain, and to skreen and air it, from Loft, to Loft, as it falls thro' Infundibulums or Hoppers from the upper Stories, and for the conveniency of craning up the Grain: To which purpose they place their Windows opposite to each other, to air the Grain as it falls, and at other times to let in drying Winds, to sweeten and preserve the Grain. There ought also
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to be a Hopper or Infundibulum ten Foot square at top, which may at pleasure be fix'd on the outside of the Wall in the lower Stories, by which they may, by spouts from the higher Stories, plac'd at near thirty Foot distance from the Hoppers, let the Grain fall into it thro' the air in dry Weather; from the bottom of which it is again convey'd to the lower Floor within, by proper Funnels or Pipes, after being thus air'd and fann'd; and is again cran'd up into some of the upper stories. Stoves are also to be made in the middle and each end, to be made use of upon the going off of Frosts.

WHEN the Corn is first lodg'd it is laid six Inches thick, turn'd twice a Week, and skreen'd once; this for the first two Months. Then it is laid a foot thick for two Months more, turn'd once a Week, and skreen'd once a Fortnight. Afterwards it is laid two foot thick, turn'd once a Fortnight, and skreen'd once a Month. After lying a Year they lay it 2½ or three foot thick, turn it once a Month, and skreen it once in two Months. After lying two Years, they turn it once in two Months, and skreen it once a Quarter; then it will be perfectly dry, and may be kept sound and good, seventy Years, by turning and skreening it once a Quarter.

A Granary of these dimensions will contain 14000 Barrels, and if the Walls be strong enough, at 2½ Brick thick the two first Stories, two Brick the three next, and 1½ Brick the two upper Stories; which according to a Plan I have seen was judg'd sufficient, considering how the Building is bound by the lowness of the Stories; then it will take 600000 Bricks to build it. If it be thought proper to add ½ Brick more to the Thickness throughout, then it will take 750000; and the whole Expence of building it, when all things are provided at the least Price, would not exceed 1200 £.

If we suppose 4 *d.* annually taken for each Barrel lodg'd, the Rent of the Granary when fill'd would amount to 233 *l.* 6. *s.* 8 *d.*: Deduct the charge of attending the Granary, *viz.* a Clerk at 40 *l.* per annum, and six others at 8 *l.* or 10 *l.* each, in the whole 88 *l.* or 100 *l.*, then there would remain 133 *l.* 6 *s.* 8 *d.* or 145 *l.* 6 *s.* 8 *d.* for the Interest of 1200 *l.* laid out in the building, which would be above 11 or 12 *per Cent* for their Money, tho' they lodg'd no Grain. Suppose the Granary should Cost 1500 *l.*, they would have 8 *l.* 16 *s.* or 9 *l.* 13 *s.* *per Cent* for the Money expended in the building.

ANY who lodg'd Grain at 4 *d.* per Barrel Rent, suppose the first Cost was 10 Shillings, if they sold it again at the end of four Years, at 16 Shillings; and suppose it in that time to dry in $\frac{1}{16}$, would make very near 10 *l.* *per Cent* of their Money, *viz.* 38 *l.* 13 *s.* 4 *d.* upon 100 *l.* in four Years.

THIS I should think would be Incouragement enough, even for private Persons, to build Granaries or lodge Grain; since I take this to be the very lowest Computation of the Gain to be made by them: For they may have an opportunity of buying Grain cheaper than I here suppose it, or selling it dearer, and even in less time than four Years; which would any way make the Gain greater.

BUT tho' this would be a great advantage, yet it would still be a greater benefit to the Publick, if built at the Publick expense, or by Corporations: For by regulating them when fill'd, and by taking in none but sound dry Grain, and that by Weight, and allowing a reasonable Deduction for drying in, many hundreds might Lodge their Grain in Cumulo without inconveniency: And by obliging the Overseers and Clerks of the Granaries to give a proper security for their Care and Trust; and allowing of proper Assignments and transfers, each Granary might become a Bank or Fund of Credit, and might be

be said to add to our running Cash, since it would be a real security to any Persons who would lend Money to those who had Corn in the Granary, by assigning them their Grain, tho' redeemable as in Mortgages; and no Sale whether Clandestine or Publick, should be allow'd untill it was registred in the Books of the Granary. By this security Servants and others who could save as much Money as would buy ten Barrels of Wheat, instead of squandering or drinking it, would buy Grain, and lodge it in the Granary, or buy it up from others who had already lodg'd it, which they could afterwards dispose of at pleasure. Farmers could lodge their Grain, and take up Money upon it to pay their Rent. Tradesmen and Manufacturers could lay in their Grain, and take it out again as they wanted it. These and many other Conveniences would be found to arise from it, not necessary here to mention.

For these Reasons it would be of great service, if the Legislature would think of a Fund to build Granaries at the publick Expence, and have them put under a proper direction for the good of the Kingdom: But untill this be thought expedient, I shall propose a way how some of them may be built, at several Ports proper for Export, without any Expence to the Publick; and even the Money employ'd in building them, may be in a great measure an acquisition to the Kingdom.

THERE are a great many considerable Corporations in *Ireland* upon the Sea Coast, to whom the Crown has given Lands, Tolls and Customs of a considerable Value, to support the Dignity of the Magistracy, and to be employ'd for the good of the several Corporations. Many of these Lands lie in Common to those Towns, and being Waste, become Common Nuisances, being generally a Nest for Thieves, and Beggars. These by being improv'd, might be made of four or five, and in some places
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of ten or twelve Shillings *per* Acre Value, which are now scarce worth any thing, but over-run with all kinds of Weeds, and of no benefit to the Industrious Inhabitants. The Rents of the other Lands, Tolls and Customs, over and above what is sufficient to support the Magistracy with decency, are now squandred away in Rioting and Excess in Entertainments, to the lasting reproach of many Corporations; when they ought to be employ'd for the benefit of the Publick, and particularly, of the Corporations they belong to. Now would it not be just and equitable in our Legislature, to oblige the several Towns Corporate to set their several Lands at the best improv'd Rent, and limit them, according to their different Situations and Revenue, to a Sum sufficient to support their Magistracy and Officers, and oblige them to lay out the remainder of their Rents, Tolls and Customs, in publick Works, for the benefit of their several Corporations; as in erecting Granaries, enlarging and improving their Ports and Harbours, building Work-houses to employ their Poor, and in giving Incouragement to our Fisheries, with many other Improvements too many to enumerate? In the first place, Granaries should be erected and fill'd under such Regulations as I have already mention'd, or may be found proper upon further consideration; and for their Incouragement, the Magistrates might have a power given them of supplying their Markets out of the Publick Granary, whenever Corn exceeded a determin'd Price to be fix'd by the Law, suppose twenty Shillings *per* Barrel. Would not this be a benefit to the Publick, and particularly tend to the increase of those Corporations, by encouraging Tradesmen, &c to reside with them, when they would know that the Markets would be always supply'd at a reasonable Price? would not the Revenues of those

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Towns be more usefully expended when employ'd so, than in Luxurious Eating and Drinking, promoting the Consumption of Foreign Wines, Spices and other Groceries, by which means they mispend their Time, give themselves a vicious Habit not easily shaken off, and become an ill Example to the Industrious in the several Stations below them?

By having these Granaries the Government could easily judge, from the annual Crops and quantity lodg'd in them, when it would be proper to check the Exportation, from time to time; as when high Prices from abroad would incourage us to empty our Granaries too much, least by that means we might be oblig'd to buy back again Corn at a more advanced Price, than we got for our own.

Thus the publick Granaries should be under their power; and those which were erected by Merchants or private Societies, might have a Liberty of being fill'd from abroad, or empty'd when ever their Owners found their Advantage in it.

LESSER Granaries might also be built, by County Taxes, in some of the inland Counties, where it should be thought convenient: and a Method, us'd abroad in some inland Countries in *Europe*, might be introduced, if at any Time a scarcity at Home were apprehended; which is, in the beginning of Winter, to have an Estimate made of the Quantity of Corn that every Farmer has in his Yard or Barn, and by a Law to oblige the Farmers, whenever the Government apprehended a Scarcity, to Lodge a part of their Grain, when Thresh'd, in these Granaries, to supply the Markets at home, in case the demand from abroad were so great as to incourage such an Exportation, as would leave us too small a quantity to supply our wants at home afterwards. The Money got for the Grain sold out of those Granaries, should be paid to the Farmers in proportion to the Quantity each of them lodg'd.

These Granaries only to be fill'd under these Regulations, when a Scarcity was apprehended at Home, and when the other Sea-port Granaries were exhausted : but these are chiefly of Use in inland Countries, where there is little Water-Carriage, and Grain can't be brought from distant Parts, without great Expence.

I would willingly hope, that some way or other, a beginning may be given to Granaries ; and when their Conveniency, and the Profit to be made by them is better known, other Regulations may be fix'd upon to make them more beneficial ; for the whole Community would soon find the difference between a Regular and constant Market, and the present uncertain Startings occasion'd by the rising and falling of them, upon account of a Glut or a Scarcity.

If we ever propose to have an extended Trade, and ready Market for our Linnen and Hempen Manufactures, and to bring them to perfection, we ought with the greatest care to keep the Price of Provisions at a reasonable Medium : for these Manufactures are not like the Woollen, which few Nations can excell in, either for want of good Wool, or some other conveniences ; by which means, the Manufacturers of Wool, have fewer Rivals, and can afford giving higher Wages to the Persons employ'd ; and therefore they can live tolerably well, tho' Provisions should rise higher than a reasonable Medium : but since most Nations Manufacture Linnen and Hemp more or less, or Cotton, which in many places is of the same Use ; these are Manufactures, which have many Rivals ; consequently that Nation which is most Industrious, and has a constant and regular Market for Provisions at a reasonable Price, must have a great advantage over others whose Provisions are higher or fluctuate more ; for by having a regular Market for Provisions,

ons, they can sell their Manufactures at a more certain and reasonable Price, by knowing for what Wages they can constantly work ; and Merchants abroad will always give that Country the preference, where they can be furnish'd with equally good Manufactures, at a certain Price they can depend upon, because a certain reasonable profit is always preferable to an uncertain one, tho' sometimes it may be greater than the other.

SINCE I have here mention'd our Linnen Manufactures, I could with a proper Method were fallen upon to proportion the Wages and Gain of the several Persons concern'd in its several Branches ; that is, that the Flax-dresser, Spinner, Weaver, Bleacher, &c should each have a reasonable Share of the Gain, in Proportion to the Time and Difficulty of their several Parts ; for if any of them have too great a Share, it is a great Discouragement to the rest.

I AM of Opinion, that at present the Weavers and country Merchants, who buy the Linnens either green or bleach'd, run away with too much of the Profit from the Spinners ; so that, when Provisions rise but a little above a reasonable Price, the Spinner has too little Wages.

I AM also convinced, that, as many of our Weavers are now situated, they can neither work so well nor so cheap, as they might if properly dispos'd of and employed. They are now generally dispers'd thro' the Country, and have each a little Farm, from 5 or 6, to 8 or 10, or more Acres of Land. By thus being divided between their Farm and Weaving, they are good at neither ; nor can they be so expeditious, or capable of weaving well, as if they were constantly employ'd in it. This also obliges them to take higher Prices for their Weaving ; since they only have Work as they can procure it from the Country House-wives in their Neighbourhood : for they require higher Wages to maintain

their Families, because they live part of the Year idle.

For these Reasons, I think it would be of great Service, if all Weavers and Spinners, who have no other Way of living, were oblig'd to live in Towns and Villages. This would encourage those who buy Yarn and employ Weavers, to live in, or resort to those Villages, and employ the Weavers; and the Farmers in the Neighbourhood would have a Market for their Provisions; which would be more beneficial to both, than when each of them endeavour'd to provide all Things necessary within themselves for their Subsistence; and in Time of Harvest those Villagers would be ready Hands to assist the Farmers. It would also be very convenient, that all who were bound Apprentices to Weavers, should first learn to spin; that in Case they were at any Time not employ'd in Weaving, they might by Spinning help to maintain their Families.

I CANNOT but think it would be a great Advantage to our Linnen Manufactures, if there was Encouragement given to carry them on by Companies, or voluntary Societies, in the several Towns or Villages; for they would have vastly the advantage of private or single Persons, by overseeing and regulating the Markets in buying of Yarn; regularly employing the Weavers, whom they would hire by the Year; and in sorting the Yarn; and taking Care that every Thing be put to the best Use, without Waste or Loss: Nor would they be so liable to be impos'd upon by either Spinners or Weavers; and consequently the Markets would not fluctuate so much, as they now generally do, to the Disadvantage of Trade. Such Societies would also vye with each other in the Goodness of their Cloths; and keep up their Credit with their Correspondents abroad; and by a more general Correspondence, better know what reasonable Price to keep the Markets

kets at, so as to sell at *Par* with Foreigners. But this being under the Direction of those generous and diligent Patriots, the Trustees of our *Linnen* and *Hemp* Manufactures, it will be needless to enlarge further upon it.

By promoting these and other rational Projects, we might improve our Country considerably ; but, if we would still more effectually promote Trade and Industry, improve the Country to the utmost, and make our selves truly Patriots by fixing our Liberties on a solid Foundation, it would be by establishing a Yeomanry in *Ireland*. This, in my Opinion, is the true Source of all Industry, the chief Bulwark and Support of the Liberties of the Nation that is so happy as to have it. It was the keeping up the Farm-houses, and the Tenures of the Yeomanry of *England*, that was the Foundation of their Improvements and Industry, and of the Liberties they enjoy under their present happy Constitution.

The Want of this Yeomanry is the principal Evil to be removed in *Ireland*, from whence most of our Inconveniences flow : It is greatly the Cause of our Indolence and Inactivity, and a Spur to our Extravagance. Could I ever hope to see all our Nobility and Gentry so generous to their Country, to their Posterity, and I may say to themselves, as to fix the Tenures and Possessions of their Tenants upon a lasting and certain Foundation, by Leases of Lives renewable, or Fee-Farms, I would not doubt to find our People soon become industrious and frugal to the utmost. This would occasion the Improvement of our Lands, and give full Employment to our People, so as to give us our full Weight in *England*: And they would then find it their Interest to enlarge their Foundation, as they have already done with *Scotland*, and to incorporate us with themselves by an equitable Union.

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I AM sensible this Proposal will be liable to many Difficulties; and many Objections may be started against it by the Nobility and Gentry of this Kingdom; and must own my self very unequal to the Task, of setting in a full Light the Disadvantages we at present lye under for Want of a Yeomanry, and the many and great Advantages arising from the fixing one, and ascertaining their Tenures and Possessions: Yet I shall mention some of them, and endeavour to answer the most material Objections, that I can think of, against it.

THE Discouragement to Improvements, arising from our present Method of letting our Lands by short Leases of 21 Years, is obvious to all. Places where the Numbers of Papists are great, it is plain, will never be improved. On the contrary, they will rather endeavour to waste and impoverish the Land, tho' bound up by the strictest Ties. This is occasion'd by the Shortness of their Leases. We find very little Improvement made upon Leases of 31 or 41 Years. Let us cast our Eyes upon Church Lands throughout the Kingdom, and we won't find one Place in a Hundred, where there is any tolerable Improvement made upon them. The Bishops (who have only their Lands for Life, which afterwards go to their Successors) by their frequent Translations, can scarce expect to be so long fix'd in any Diocess, as to leave their Lands to any of their Family; and for that Reason take Fines from 3 to 3 Years, or from 7 to 7 Years: When they can't by such Tenures prevail with their Tenants to improve, how can Lay-Landlords, whose Estates descend to their Children, expect their Tenants should improve upon Leases determinable upon 31 or 41 Years, or even three Lives? Have not Tenants daily Instances before them of Landlords squandering away their Time and Money, and living

ing above their Fortunes, upon the Prospect they have of retrieving their Affairs at the Expiration of such Leases, by raising extraordinary Fines, or setting their Lands to those who offer most for them? Upon Renewal, the improving Tenant must pay for the Landlords Extravagance a Sum of Money equivalent to the Improvement he has made, and the utmost Value of the Land, in case he has been so provident as to have acquir'd any Money, which seldom happens upon such Tenures; or he must give a Nominal great Rent for the future, if he renews his Lease; otherwise the next Person, who offers a Trifle more, gets his Lands, and he is turn'd adrift, to serve in like manner the next whose Lease is expir'd. Thus, where the Landlord proves extravagant, he scarcely ever distinguishes between an improving and a non-improving Tenant.

AGENTS, particularly of those Noblemen or Gentlemen who reside in *England*, or at a Distance from their Estates, who have been empower'd to treat with Tenants, and give Leases, to ingratiate themselves with their Employers (that thus by their skilful Management they might procure more Agencies from others) have in some Places taken Proposals seal'd up, under a Promise to divulge none of the Names but that of the Person who offer'd most, whose Proposal was to be accepted of. Thus, the Lease was given to the highest Bidder; so that the present Possessor had no Chance for a Renewal, unless he offer'd above the Value; for doubtless, among so many Proposers, there were some who offer'd at Random, without knowing the Value of Land; and if any Tenant had been a greater Improver than his Neighbour, or had his Houses and Lands in better Order, he was sure to be the Sufferer. These have been the Methods used by some Agents, to the Ruin of the Nation; by which

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Means they gave Landlords a Nominal Rent-Roll, and very often paid Part of their Rents with a Mouthful of Moon-shine, by Reason of Tenants breaking and running off in Arrear; whilst they themselves, by Ways and Means, got Estates sometimes equal to those of their Employers.

How then can a Tenant improve his Land, when he is convinc'd that after all his Care and Toil, his Improvements will be over-rated, and he be oblig'd to shift for himself? Let us place our selves in his Situation, and see if we should think it reasonable to improve for another, when these Improvements would be the very Cause of our being remov'd from the Enjoyment of them: I believe we should not. Industry and Improvements go very heavily on, when we think we are not to have the Property in either. What can be expected then from Covenants to improve and plant, when the Person to do it, knows he is to have no Property in them? There will be no Concern or Care taken to preserve them, and they will run to Ruin as fast as made or planted. What was it induced so many of the Commonalty lately to go to *America*, but high Rents, bad Seasons, and want of good Tenures or a permanent Property in their Lands? This kept them poor and low, that they scarce had sufficient Credit to procure Necessaries to subsist, or till their Ground. They never had any Thing in Store; all was from Hand to Mouth; so one or two bad Crops broke them. Others found their Stock dwindling and decaying visibly, and so remov'd before all was gone, whilst they had as much left as would pay their Passage, and had little more than would carry them to the *American Shore*.

THIS, it may be allow'd, was the Occasion of the poor Farmers going who had their Rents lately rais'd; but it may be objected, that was not the Reason why rich Farmers went, and those who had
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several Years in beneficial Leases yet unexpir'd, who sold those Bargains and remov'd with their Effects: But 'tis plain they all went for the same Reason: For these last, from daily Examples before them, saw the present Occupiers dispossest'd of their Lands at the Expiration of their Leases, and no preference given to them; so they expected it would soon be their own case; to avoid which, and make the most of the Years yet unexpir'd, they sold, and carryed their Effects with them, to procure a settlement in a Country, where they had Reason to expect a permanent Property.

THUS we see what this Country at present suffers from the Commonalty's having no fix'd property in their Lands; the want of which deprives them of a sufficient encouragement for Improvements and Industry. The present short Tenures serve only as a Snare to induce the Nobility and Gentry to be Extravagant, Arbitrary and sometimes Tyrannical; and the Commonalty, to be dejected, dispirited, and in a manner slaves in some places: But let us turn the Tables, and see the Kingdom in a contrary Light, with an establish'd Yeomanry, a fix'd and permanent Property in Farms by Leases of lives renewable, or Fee-Farms: In which case it would be very convenient, that upon the first settlement of these Tenures, no Farms should contain less than 40 Acres *Irish* Measure, except adjoining to Towns and Villages, where smaller parcels might be allotted for their conveniency for Orchards, Gardens and other Improvements which could employ a Family; and that these freeholds should not afterwards be allow'd to be split or subdivided among the Children, but should all go to one at the election of the Parent; and the other Children should be bred to some Trade or business, by which means the Manufacturers would be increas'd in the several Towns and Villages. Nor ought any of these freeholds to exceed 160 Acres,

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except where there are Bogs or Mountains; and those might afterwards be subdivided to 40 Acres at the pleasure of the Possessor of the Farm.

EACH of these should have a sufficient Farm-house upon it kept in repair. What an Improvement such Tenures would procure to the Kingdom, every one at first View may observe. Here would be a fixt property in a Farm, sufficient to find employment for a large Family in improving it to the utmost. Then all Lands capable of Improvement would be inclos'd, fenc'd, drain'd, manur'd, till'd or planted with every thing to the best advantage. The Tradesman's and Artificer's time would be employ'd wholly at their Trade: Which would enable them to Work better and cheaper, than when they are distracted with several Employments and good at none. The whole Country would appear like a regular Plantation or Garden, by the industry and frugality of the People: And Nature would seem always to smile. Landlords would have a certain and well paid Rent, and would know exactly what they could depend upon. This would make them less Lavish and Extravagant than they are at present, to the ruin of their Families and Fortunes: Which proceeds from imaginary Rent-Rolls, and is the cause of their grinding the Face of the Poor.

• INSTEAD of a tyrannical or arbitrary sway, which is frequently now the case; they would have all the deference and respect paid to them, that is due from a free, generous and brave Yeomanry. If this would be the consequence, how worthy of Praise and how justly would those Noblemen and Gentlemen be esteem'd Patriots, who would concur in promoting it? This would be a perpetual Memorial of their Wisdom and generosity; that for the good of their Country and posterity, they had voluntarily given up a Tyrannical sway and Arbitrary Power over the Industrious Poor of their Country, and given them

them a permanent property in their Lands and possessions; having only reserv'd for themselves and posterity that due deference, respect and weight, which ought to be allow'd where Merit and superior property are joyn'd together.

It may be objected by the Men of Fortune; shall we dispose of our Lands out of Lease, or under Leases near expiring, in Leases of lives Renewable, or in Fee-Farms, and so divest our selves of all the profit hereafter to be made of them, either from their improvement or rise of Markets, which in either case is giving so much away from our Families and Posterity?

To this I answer, we ought to have a great regard to the good of our Posterity; but it is not only in leaving them a great Fortune or Riches, that we act for their good; but in leaving it to them in a well regulated free Government, flourishing by Trade and Industry, where they may have a Power of doing good, and a prospect of being long possess'd of their Liberties and Possessions. By leaving them under so happy a Government and Constitution in a Country improv'd by Industry and Arts, they may pass their time in Affluence, Ease and Satisfaction: Where by a Virtuous, frugal, and yet generous open Education, they will have Power and Wealth sufficient to do Acts of beneficence to Mankind, promote Industry, employ and relieve the Poor, and reward Merit. By leaving them in the Enjoyment of these Powers and Rights, we do vastly more for them; than by leaving them an overgrown Fortune with a dejected indolent Commonalty, in a Country very little improv'd by Arts and Industry; their Liberties being by that means more precarious, and the whole Community less capable of repelling foreign Insults.

I have already shewn, how little Prospect there is of raising our Rents by Improvements, during the uncertain Tenures the Commonalty have now; and also how we may contribute to the Improvement of

our Country by fixing a lasting Property in the Yeomanry. What we give in this, for the welfare, safety and improvement of the Kingdom, is given, in an eminent manner, to our Posterity. It is highly reasonable, at the same time, that out of these Tenures a large Desmesn should be reserv'd in every Gentlemans Possession, according to his Fortune, that he may at his leisure Improve; as also Woods, Bogs, Parks, &c. As to the Profit to be made of Lands by the Rise of Markets, that is not to be expected or desir'd: But Methods are to be taken, to prevent their being higher. There is a reasonable Medium, for the Benefit of the Publick, which we generally exceed: Consequently it is the Interest of the Publick as well as of private Persons, that Lands should increase in value only by their Improvement in being made capable of producing greater Quantities of Provisions and Commodities necessary in Trade: To do which effectually, the true way, as I have already shewn, is by ascertaining the Tenures and Possessions of the Yeomanry.

ANOTHER objection against the having a Yeomanry, is this, that if a perpetual property were given to them in their Lands by these Freeholds, then the Interest and sway of Gentlemen of Fortune over their Tenants, in Election of Members of Parliament, would be so much lessen'd; that the Vote of each Freeholder in the smallest Freehold would be as much regarded as a Gentleman's of the greatest Fortune; and Lords, who have no Vote, would in great measure lose their Interest in Elections for the Shires.

THIS objection will have great weight with many in both Houses of Parliament, without whose concurrence no Law can be obtain'd; and therefore it requires a deliberate and full Answer.

IN order to this I must observe, that the design and intention of Parliaments is to preserve the Liberty

ty and Property of the Subject, and to procure those Laws that may be thought beneficial, and repeal others which may be found pernicious to the Common-wealth. The less the Expense is to the Elected, and the securer the Property and Freedom is in the Electors; the greater will the weight of the Parliament be, and the more capable of preserving our Liberties and procuring us proper Laws.

THIS answers the most material part of the objection, but not the particular Reason of those who have large Possessions and great Interest by the present smaller Determinable Freeholds under them; who, to strengthen the objection, alledge that the Freeholders, whom our present Laws allow to vote, being of a low Station and having but little Knowledge in affairs of Government, are not qualify'd to judge of the Capacity and Qualifications of the Candidates, if they be not under the Direction of Gentlemen of more extensive Knowledge and greater discernment, but are frequently byas'd by the seeming generosity or extravagance of the Candidates, which too much influences the lower Rank of Men. This must be allow'd to be fact, among several of the less judicious of them: But there are such close Ties between Landlord and Tenant, especially in Tenures of Leases of lives renewable, that it is frequently in the Landlords power to do them many Actions of kindness, which others cannot; as also to lay them under some difficulties, if they oppose them out of a spirit of perversness, when the Gentlemen they recommend are of fair Characters in their Country. So that the few, to be prevail'd upon to Act against their Interest, will be inconsiderable; unless a Landlord should propose a Person to them of a notorious ill Character, who might joyn in with others that would form designs to unhinge our happy Government and Constitution: If ever such a time should happen; it will be allow'd by all, that they ought to

to break thro' all such Ties; and choose Gentlemen who would exert themselves in the defence of their Country, the Government and Constitution: Their opposition to their Landlords, at such a time, would be a convincing Proof that the perpetual Tenures of the Yeomanry would be of singular advantage to our Country; and would shew, that our Constitution was fix'd upon a Foundation not easily to be mov'd. But since those Noblemen and Gentlemen, that have the greatest Stakes and Interest in their Country, are under the strongest Ties to preserve our Constitution and Liberties, this is a case which, it is presumed, will never happen. It is only those of desperate Fortunes, that would desire Convulsions in the State, in hopes to Fish in troubled Waters: Who having little or nothing to lose, might hope to be Gainers in the scuffle, upon a new division of properties. So that the force of this objection must be lost; and Landlord and Tenant, like Patron and Client, would have so great dependance upon each other, that they would still act in Concert, to the disappointment of those who would endeavour the contrary, from selfish views, without intending either to serve the Freeholders or the Publick.

BESIDES, the Returns of the Boroughs would still be in the Recommendation of the Nobility and Gentlemen of Fortune: And perhaps it would be proper to have the value of the Freeholds of those allow'd to Vote for Knights of the Shire, fix'd at 10*l.* *per Annum*; by which means they would be less liable to be bias'd, and Elections would become less Expensive.

ANOTHER objection to the Establishing a Yeomanry, is this, some may say, they willingly would do it; but if they should, whilst others could not, who are Minors, or, being bound up by Settlement, are Tenants for Life; then these last, who are now upon a level with them, and their Posterity after them

them, would have greater Influence, increase their Rents, and be above the *Par* with them and their Children, which otherwise they would not.

THIS seems to have some Weight at first View: But I will endeavour to shew, there is little or nothing in it, or that it may be avoided. I have already shewn, there is no great prospect of the Rise of Lands without further Improvements, which is not to be hop'd for from our present Tenures. Besides, those who do expect it, generally live above their Fortunes: So when they have rais'd their Rents, they spend their Fortunes by living up to a Nominal Rent-Roll, which is frequently the Reason we see so many Families ruin'd and often Extinct. On the contrary, those Families that would give the beforemention'd Tenures to the Yeomanry, by knowing what they would have to depend upon, and living within Bounds, might live easy and improve their Fortunes: Whilst the others, by putting an imaginary Value on their Lands, live above them, and often sell to those very Families, in their Neighbourhood, who live Frugally and improve what's in their Possession, and by that means are more likely to make their Fortunes better, and with more profit to the Common-wealth. But in order to make it more Equitable, and have a speedier good effect, a Law might be procur'd, to enable Tenants for Life, and Guardians to make Leases of Lives, or for Terms of Years renewable, at the best improv'd Rent, without Fine; Reserving at each Death, or Term of Years inserted upon Renewals, a proportional Fine, or a proportional Part of the improv'd Rent, as may be thought reasonable to be fixt by Law.

NOR do I think it would be prejudicial to the Publick, if such a Method as this were introduc'd; *viz.* To give Leases of Lives renewable, or Fee-Farms at a reasonable Price, as Lands are generally set in the Country; and the Landlord afterwards al-
ways,

ways, from 7 to 7 Years, or from 10 to 10 Years, to have it in his Choice to take the first Rent it was fix'd at in Money, or the third Part of the Produce of the Farm annually in Kind after the Tythe is deducted; so that he might have it in his Power to agree with his Tenant for 7 or 10 Years certain, for a Sum of Money to be paid annually for such Third, or otherwise to take it in Kind.

By this Means, the Landlord would have a Certainty for the Rent the Lands were first set at, and also the proportional Part of the Increase made by the Tenant upon the Improvement of his Farm, either in Gardening, Orcharding, Tillage, or Pasture, according to Agreement. Thus, for Instance, suppose a Farm of 60 Acres, Plantation Measure, set at 5 Shillings *per* Acre; that is for the whole 15 *l. per Annum*. Suppose by the Tenant's Industry 8 of these were in Fallow; 8 under Barley or Wheat; and 16 un-Beans, Pease, and Oats; 8 in Gardening and Meadow; and 20 in Grass. Suppose the Produce of Wheat to be 8 Barrels *per* Acre, or of Barley 14; Pease or Beans 10; and Oats 12. The Crop in Tillage, by the Improvement of the Farmer, would stand thus: 64 Barrels of Wheat, or 112 of Barley; 4 Acres of Beans or Pease, 40 Barrels; and 144 Barrels of Oats upon 12 Acres. After deducting the Tythe, the Landlord's Third would be above 19 Barrels of Wheat, or 33. 6 of Barley; 12 of Beans or Pease; and 43 of Oats: Wheat, at 12 Shill.

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>		<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
<i>per</i> Barrel, Value	11	08	0	or Barley at 6s.	10	01	7
Beans or Pease at 8s.	4	16	0		4	16	0
Oats at 4s. <i>per</i> Bar.	8	12	0		8	12	0
So that the Landlord by	24	16	0	or	23	9	7
the Crop would have	5						

THERE

THERE would also be 8 Acres in Gardening or Meadow, Value 8*l*; when Tythe is deducted, 7*l* 4*s*. 0*d*. the Landlord's Third wou'd then be 2*l* 8*s*. 0*d*; By sowing Grass-Seeds, 20 Acres of Grass wou'd at least be worth 10*s*. *per* Acre, 10*l*. The Landlord's Third, Tythe deducted, 3*l* 0*s*. 0*d*. Total of Gardening, Meadow, and Grass, 5*l* 8*s*. 0*d*. So the improv'd Rent to the Landlord might be from 28*l*. 17*s*. 7*d*, to 30*l*. 4*s*. 0*d*. when Markets were at a reasonable Price: if he abated the Tenant $\frac{1}{16}$ of this for his Trouble, he would have about 27*l*. *per Ann.* for his Rent, which would be an Addition of about 12*l*. *per Ann.* to his Original Rent; all owing to the Tenant's Improvement, upon his having a good Tenure; and the Tenant would have, at a Medium, about 60*l*. *per Ann.* to live upon, and to pay his Servants Wages, Seed, and Repairs. Or suppose $\frac{1}{4}$ would be thought a reasonable Proportion to take from the Tenant; then the Landlord would have about 22*l*. at a Medium; and allowing the Tenant $\frac{1}{16}$ of that for his Trouble in turning it into Money for him, the Landlord would have about 20*l*. *per Ann.* Rent, or 5*l*. more than the first Rent, all owing to the Tenant's Improvement.

THUS might he agree with the Tenant for 7 or 10 Years, as he thought proper, and still be secure of the third or fourth of the Increase made by the improving Tenant. If Markets at any time became dearer, he would reap the Benefit of them; and even where the Tenant was a Sluggard, or the Lands not easily improv'd, he would still be sure of the Original Rent they were set at. He might also secure, where Wood was planted, a Proportion of it at each Fall of the Wood; for which he might at his Pleasure, come to an Agreement with the Tenant.

SUCH a Tenure, I am convinc'd, would answer all the Ends desir'd by the Publick as well as by the Landlord and Tenant. The Publick would reap all

the Benefit of the Improvements made in the Value of Lands thro' the Kingdom. The Landlord would have a reasonable Share of the Improvement of his Land and gradual Rise of Markets ; and the Tenant would have a permanent Property in his Farm, and a comfortable additional Subsistence to his Family by his Improvement, Care, and Frugality ; and a necessary and suitable Dependance and Friendship would be preserved between Landlord and Tenant in all Elections, and a perfect Harmony be always maintain'd. It would be the Landlord's Interest and Honour to preserve his Tenant from all Hardships and Inconveniencies from others in the Country ; and the Tenant's to support his Landlord's Interest and Weight with others of equal Rank in the Kingdom, which would enable the Landlord the more effectually to protect and defend the Tenant from any Oppressions in the Neighbourhood. Then the *Jus Patronatus* would be in some Measure renew'd, and Landlord and Tenant would be synonymous Terms with Patron and Client. Thus would our Liberties be better secur'd, and Trade and Industry be promoted.

It may be further objected, that in several Parts of the Kingdom, particularly in the *North*, they have subdivided their Farms into small Holdings ; and the present Possessors being poor, they have not Stock enough to take and improve 60 or 100 Acres ; and in some other Provinces, where are vast Tracts of grazing Ground, and few residing upon them, but Gentlemen and Labourers, there would not be enough of the Middle Rank to take such Freeholds, or capable to improve them.

To this I answer: That giving those, who have an Inclination to improve, a perpetual Property in the Lands, tho' according to the Plan I propos'd, they are not allow'd to subdivide their Freeholds, and are not able at present to occupy and improve the

the whole Freehold they would take, they might however set off a Part of it for a Term of Years, until their Stock should increase, and the Land in their own Possession be improv'd, and afterwards they might take in the Remainder, and be able to manage the whole to Advantage.

I MUST further observe, that should this Method of letting Lands ever take Place, those, who come earliest into the Project, would have the Choice of all the improving Tenants to take their Lands; and all the poor, refuse, dispirited Tenants, having no Genius for Improvement, would be left with those who would not concur in giving those Tenures, or were latest in coming into this Method.

THO' the giving these Freeholds to Protestants only, would have a good Effect in strengthening the Protestant Interest in this Kingdom, by increasing their Numbers and keeping the Power and Property of Lands in their Hands; yet I could wish, for the Good of Religion and our publick Benefit, that so wide a Breach were not kept up between us and the Papists: for I am fully convinc'd nothing retains them more obstinately in their Perswasion, than an Impression that they are suffering for Religion. Were there a free Intercourse between us, and no Stain fix'd upon Protestants, who, thro' Curiosity, sometimes might be present at their Sermons or Celebration of their Mass; we might more easily expose their Errors and Superstition to the vulgar, who are kept in Ignorance, than now we can. The chief Reason we can have to discourage Popery by penal Laws (for I don't consider the Papists here as the old native Proprietors, who always pretend a Claim to their ancient Properties) arise from the three following Tenets or Doctrines they hold; *viz.* a foreign Jurisdiction in the Pope over Kings, to dethrone and murder them; their keeping no Faith with Hereticks; and their maintaining an Inquisition over

Conscience. Their other Errors and Absurdities, for the most Part, regard only themselves; but don't affect the Publick. Many of the *Gallican* Church and *Jansenists* deny these. Now should any Part of the Popish secular Clergy be brought to abjure these, and to expose these Tenets to their Hearers, and endeavour to discover and suppress those who taught them, and at the same time take the Oath of Allegiance to his Majesty; I would freely give my Vote for a Toleration of them and their Religion; and distinguish the Laity, who adher'd to this less erroneous Part of the Church of *Rome*, by giving them Tenures, and an Interest in their Country, sufficient to promote their being industrious and assisting to increase the Wealth of the Kingdom.

THE present Method of setting, levying, or recovering of Tythes in this Kingdom, is frequently the Ground of Complaint, and an Occasion of Differences and Coldness between the Clergy and Laity in many Places; which obstructs the Clergy's being useful as spiritual Guides, and has lately been made an handle to induce Thousands of the Protestant Dissenters to go to *America*; for by the present Method of setting them to Tythe-Farmers from Year to Year, they not only come to know the full Value of their Tythe, and take the utmost Farthing from the Tythe-Farmers, by giving them to those who offer most; but these again screw up the Tythe upon the Possessors of the Land, even beyond the Value, by the Folly of the Occupiers of the Land, who value their Grain, &c. higher, and their own Labour less than the Tythe-Farmer could sell the Grain, or get it clean'd for, in case he drew the Tythe, and made the most of it, and if the Tythe-Farmer continues above 2 or 3 Years in Possession, and any of the People fall in Arrear, they are so much under his Distress by the Expence he can put them to in the Ecclesiastical Courts, that they dare not oblige him to draw

draw their Tythe, but in hopes of Forbearance will rather take it above the Value. I can't but think, therefore, it would be for the publick Good, that a Power should be given by Law to the present Incumbents in every Parish, and for the Time to come to their Successors, to set Leases of their Tythes at the improv'd Value, without taking Fines, for a Term not exceeding 21, 16, or 11 Years, as thought most reasonable by the Legislature; which should bind their Successors during that Term; and to prevent Frauds, no Lease should be valid, that was made within a Year of the Incumbent's Death or Removal; and as a further Encouragement and Inducement, to set the Tythes only to the Lessees or Occupiers of the Land, or to the immediate Landlord of the Occupiers of it, who could applot and levy it with the Rent during the Term for which it was granted; a Power may be given to the Clergy in such Cases, to levy and distrain from the Tenant, or Occupier of the Land, as lay-Landlords do now.

By making such a Law, I can foresee no Disadvantage to the Clergy, but the contrary; and a considerable Benefit to the Laity, and the Publick; a perfect Harmony would be restor'd in many Places between them. The Clergy would have the Certainty of a reasonable Value of their Tythes, and an easy Way of recovering them without any Discontent: And at the Expiration of each Lease, in case Lands improv'd, or Markets became gradually dearer, they could improve their Tythes as well as now: and in the meantime the Occupiers of the Land would be encourag'd to break up and improve their Lands by Tillage, and to propagate several other Things that are attended with great Expence, as Hops, &c. which now they can't so well undertake, considering how heavy the Tythe would be when added to the other Expence.

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The heavy Tythe is a Reason often given for their Indolence and non-Improvement.

I CANT see that any Person would suffer by giving these Leases, and the Allowance of distraining for the Tythes, but the Officers of the Ecclesiastical Courts ; which might be easily remedied, by giving to the several Chancellors an annual Salary, to be levy'd in the several Diocesses as County-Taxes are, in lieu of their Fees upon all Occasions, as well upon Licences and Probats, as upon Suits depending in their Courts ; and then we should get rid of many useless Officers, such as Country Proctors, Apparators &c who are generally as useless and prejudicial to the Commonalty as country Attornies.

BUT perhaps it may be objected, that since the Law has given the Tenth to the Clergy, and that to be paid in kind out of the Labour of the Laity ; why should not they have the utmost of their Due without Clamour ? Which they can't have, during the Continuance of the Lease, tho' the Lands improve and the Markets rise ; besides, this is doing a great Prejudice to the Successors of the present Incumbents who grant the Leases.

To this I answer ; that if the Tythes were given to the Clergy, solely with an Intention to make them rich and opulent, and to aggrandize and raise their Families, and that they were to consider nothing but their own private Benefit, the Objection is strong, and they ought to make the most of them : but if they are only given as a comfortable Subsistence for their Families, and to take off their Thoughts from worldly Affairs, that they may have Time to employ themselves in reading, improving their Knowledge, and teaching the Laity ; who by Reason of their many other Avocations, have not Leisure generally to employ a competent Part of their Time, to discover without Assistance, and to
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fix the Impressions of their Duty to God Almighty and each other, and for that Reason stand in Need of their Examples and Exhortations: and since the principal Reward of the Clergy's Labours is reserved to be given in another World, I can't see why they should desire to take the utmost of the Labour of the Laity due by Law, and so give the People an Impression of their too much valuing this World, which gives their Exhortations less Weight, and frequently breaks the Harmony which ought to subsist between them; or how can they justly complain of lay-Landlords, who rack and squeeze the most they can from their Tenants? since by Law they are as much intitled to what they can get for their Land, as the Clergy to their Tythe. If Landlords then quit a Share of their Right to the Improvement of the Land and the future Rise of Markets; and for the Good of the Publick divest their Successors of it, who are their Children, by giving the Yeomanry a fix'd Property in their Freeholds; ought not the Clergy, for Examples-sake, and to shew they are no more attach'd to this World than the Laity, to allow their Parishioners to have a small Property in their Tythes for a few Years, at a somewhat less Value than the Law intitles them to take? and this, I think, they may do with a good Conscience, without being justly blamed by their Successors; nay, even in case a small Fine were taken, which I propose here should not be allowed; or otherwise the Bishops have all along been in an Error, in renewing for a Fine to their Tenants, and have done Injustice to their Successors.

As a further Incouragement to Industry, we ought to execute the Laws more rigorously against Papists who refuse to work upon their Holydays which are not allow'd by our Laws: For these they spend in Idleness, to the Loss of the Publick and their own Detriment, half starving their Families by not working

ing a competent Part of their Time. Nor would it be a Detriment, if we lessen'd the Number of our legal Holydays, and had more working Days: For since the original Intention of them is not comply'd with, to frequent the Church for Instruction and Prayers; the Publick ought not to suffer the Loss, by their making it a Cloak for Idleness and Debauchery. Some of them also happen in those Seasons, when Labour is very necessary to the Publick. The obliging therefore all those to work, who either had not publick Prayers in their Parish, or would not attend them if there were any, I hope, would not be deem'd a robbing God Almighty of his due; for certainly a laudable Industry on such Days, is more pleasing to him, than an Indolent Inactivity and Non-Attendance upon his Service.

I SHALL here beg Leave to make a gross Computation of the Loss the Nation sustains by the great Number of our Holidays ill-employ'd, and by the *still* greater Number of the Popish Holidays.

THERE are 26 Popish Holidays kept in *England* more than the 32 kept by our Law: but by our *Irish* Kalendar, I apprehend, there are many more; for in an Almanack I have seen sometime ago, in which the Popish Holydays were distinguished, I have observ'd at least 49 more than our Law allows; considering also that the common *Irish* Papists keep St. *Patrick's* Day, his Wife's, and Wife's Mother's, with many others equally ridiculous; I believe that Number is of the least. However, as in all my Computations I have endeavour'd to be within the Truth, I shall here only suppose them 26 as in *England*, and form a Calculation from that Number. I observ'd before, there were at least 3669644 Persons in *Ireland*. I suppose of this Number, 1200000 are Papists of all Ages, and 600000 of these capable of gaining 5*d.* per Day one Day with another, by Service, Labour, Manufacture,

sure, or Spinning (which, I can't think is too great Wages to be allow'd to them: considering, by Mr. King's accurate Tables, that the one half of the People in every Country, are probably between the Ages of 15 and 60 Years, and that many above 60 and under 15 are capable of maintaining themselves by their Labour) there being then 26 Popish Holidays, each Person loses 10 s. 10 d. which multiplied by the Number of labouring Persons, amounts annually to 325000 l. lost to the Kingdom by the Popish Holydays alone. There are, besides these, 32 kept by Act of Parliament. Suppose only 16 of these should be kept, viz. from *Christmas* to *Epiphany*, being an high Festival, and in the dead time of the Year, 6; *Ascension-day*, *Good-Friday*, two in *Easter Week*, two in *Whitsun Week*, the 30th of *January*, 29th of *May*, 23d of *October*, and 5th of *November*, being all our high Festivals; and the other 16 should be allow'd to be Working Days: There being at least 800000 Persons capable of Labour in the Kingdom of all Denominations; each of these, at 5 d. per Day, at present loses 6 s. 8 d, which is annually to the whole Number 266666 l. 13 s. 4 d; which added to the former Loss, the whole amounts to 591666 l. 13 s. 4 d, which might annually be gain'd by the Publick; and part of it being added to our Exports, would so far contribute to the Ballance of our Trade. These Days are now generally spent in Debauchery and Rioting by those who ought to labour; whilst perhaps their Children are half starv'd at home, or turn idle and beg or steal, to support themselves.

Would it not then be more reasonable to lessen the Number of our legal Holydays, even further than I have mention'd, by taking away such other Days as keep up the Spirit of Division and Parties among us; than to connive at the idling away of those not allow'd by Law, which the Papists do at present, to the great Prejudice of the Kingdom.

If we could by these Incouragements raise a Spirit of Improvement among our Yeomanry, and by making and inforcing proper Laws, oblige all People to work a reasonable Part of their Time, the Thing which would then be most wanted would be the Establishment of a Board or Trust, that would act with the same Generosity and Care as the Trustees of the Linnen Manufacture have done; who should have a considerable Sum appropriated to be applied by them as Premiums upon any new Improvement or useful Invention in Husbandry, Gardening, Trade, Navigation, or Fisheries, as also to incourage People from Abroad (famous in their several Trades and Employments) to come and reside with us, and put us upon such Improvements as we are at present unacquainted with, or don't sufficiently understand. The Fund for this Use may be rais'd upon some of the Articles of Luxury, Dress, Equipage and Gaming, as I before propos'd; which I believe none will think a Hardship, since it is in every one's Power to pay as much or as little of it as he thinks proper. This Board we have given a happy Beginning to, last Session, by the Bill for Encouragement of Tillage, Draining of Boggs, and Inland Navigation; which I hope in time may be enlarg'd, so as to comprehend the other Improvements I have mention'd, and have a suitable Fund appropriated to it.

THIS General Board fixt in *Dublin*, ought to have Corresponding Members in each County, by way of Clubs, to consider their wants, and what Improvements are proper for the several Counties. And these County Clubs may again be subdivided and have Monthly Meetings among themselves, to put every Farmer, they can Influence, upon the most advantageous Improvements his Land is capable of; whether by Tillage, Grass Seeds, Gardening, Draining,

ing, Fencing, making Meadow &c. These would be as so many Sub-Committees upon our Land Improvements, that would impart their several Experiments and the success attending them, to the Grand Board in *Dublin*; from whence they might again be communicated to other parts of the Kingdom. After the same manner should Clubs of Merchants, Artificers, Manufacturers and Fishers meet in the several Sea Port and Trading Towns, to concert and propose further improvements in Trade, Navigation, Manufactures and Fisheries; which they might communicate to the Grand Board. I should think, Subscriptions among the Gentlemen meeting at these Clubs, to be given once a Year as Premiums among those Farmers and Manufacturers &c, who shew'd any thing Remarkable in their way; as the best bred Horse for Carriage, War, or the Saddle; the Finest or largest Cow or Bullock; the best Sheep; and so in respect to Gardening, Tillage, Manufactures or Fisheries; would be of great service to the Publick, and more beneficial than Subscriptions for Plates, to encourage Race Horses, which are of very little advantage to the Publick, and frequently a loss to the Possessor.

AMONG the many Improvements our Lands are capable of, I can't omit the Article of Hops; which is so heavy a charge upon us in our Importations, amounting at a Medium annually to 40000 *l.* also the Culture of *Madder* may be very beneficial to us, by saving us at least 5000 *l.* annually, which we Import; and by supplying *England* with at least 17 or 18000 *l.* value which they now have from *Flanders*. Both are very profitable to the Planter, and employ many of the Poor, great part of the Year; particularly Hops. Since they are both agreeable to the Soil and Climate of *Ireland*, especially to the Warmer and more *Southerly* Parts, such as the rich Grounds of *Tipperary* and *Limrick*; and since they have been tried

in several of the more *Northern* Counties, with tolerable success; I hope it will not be amiss, to be a little more particular in recommending and shewing the Benefit to be made by them.

THE Benefit arising from Hops, to those in *England* employ'd in Railing and Vending them, is manifest, by their keeping up and increasing their Hop-yards. Tho' a bad Crop is expected generally once in 4 Years; yet 'tis computed they make 30 *l.* neat profit *per Acre Annually*, which is Equivalent to 49 *l.* for the *Irish* Plantation Acre; and at the same time they give Wages, and Employment to many of the Industrious Poor, at least half the Year, by reason of the necessary attendance upon Soiling, Digging, Planting, Howing, Poling, Tying and Picking: So that the National benefit is superior to that of the Farmer. The Merchants afterwards and Retailers have their benefit, and may be computed to make at least 20 *l. per Cent.* profit upon them. If the Nation finds it proper to discourage our present extravagance in *French* Wines and Brandy, it will put us upon proper Methods of improving and Meliorating our home made Liquors, particularly Beer and Ale; of which also we would expend greater Quantities, which would not only increase our Tillage, and Improvements in Gardening and Orchards, but also our demand for Hops. If we don't in time consider this, and Plant Grounds with Ash and Hopfally for Poles, and Plant Hop-yards; both the Price and Quantity of Hops from *England*, will be increas'd by our greater demand for them here.

I am surpriz'd, those Gentlemen of *Tipperary* and *Limrick* who Boast that their Soil is so rich and deep, that they throw away their Dung least they should make their Lands too Rank and full of Weeds, don't fall about so beneficial an Improvement. I would not doubt of their making Vast Tracts of their Land, in 10 or 12 Years, worth 3 *l.* or 4 *l. per Acre*; and

and those, who occupy'd the Lands, would at the same time make Fortunes under them. Would they but choose proper Situations for Villages, inclose and fence in proper Grounds for Hop-yards, and shelter them with Trees of quick Growth, plant little Copses for Hop-Poles; and being at the Expence of bringing over some Families from *England* Conversant in that way, give them Hop-yards for some Years gratis, and afterwards in Free-hold at a Reasonable Rent; They might lay a Foundation for the getting 2 or 3000 *l. per Annum*, Rent, out of 1000 Acres; and at the same time make Thriving Towns, lay out all their Grounds like Gardens and employ all the Poor in their Neighbour-hood, who (finding the difference between living well by their constant Employment and Labour, and the miserable way they now live in, when Idle and Poor) would at the other Seasons of the Year, when not employ'd in the Hop-yards, make some progress in our Manufactures by Spinning &c. and thus contribute to the Increase of our Linnen or Hempen Manufactures in those Parts. How much more profitable would such Improvements be, than the Wilds at present under Sheep-walks and Grazing Farms? how much more Populous and safe would the Country be, by having Rich and populous Villages? how much better for the Publick to give Employment to, and increase the Number, of the Industrious? and how much more Honourable to the Gentlemen, who promote this Improvement and employ the Poor, than to discard them, and turn all their Lands into Grazing Farms, and by that means force them to be Poor and miserable for want of Employment? Those, who seriously consider the matter, will be sensible of the Truth of this.

IN like manner might *Madder* be cultivated in those Rich Lands, to vast profit; being generally sold from 2 or 3, to 7 or 8 *l. per* 100 weight; so that an English Acre has been known to yield 2 or

300 *l.*

300 *l*, the Crop being taken once in 3 Years, which would be an immense Gain: But if only 150 *l*. was made once in 3 Years upon an *Irish* Acre, it would be highly worth improvement; and there being Vent for near the Value of 24000 *l*. Yearly in *England*, and here, there might be 480 Acres employd in it to advantage. I need not run out at length upon the advantage to be made in Planting Woad, Weld, Safron, Liquorice and other things more immediately in the way of Gardening: But I do think a small Sum of Money, to be given as a Premium to Persons who perfectly understood the Culture of each of these, and a proper Plot of Ground, to be given to them in consideration of their taking a Number of sharp Boys Apprentices, to learn them how to raise and cure each of these, would be exceedingly well bestow'd, and a publick benefit. These, when out of their time, might be taken by Gentlemen in different Provinces, who were willing to improve the Kingdom, and try them upon their several Grounds; and if they were attended with success, then Lands might be given them at a reasonable Rent, for the propagation of those usefull Plants. By these and the like methods, might every corner of our Country be improv'd.

AMONG the many Improvements, of which *Ireland* is capable, and to which we ought to give all proper Incouragement, is the discovery of Mines and Minerals. The out-works of our Mines and subterraneous Treasures have been attempted in some places with success; and some progress made in several places, where by the Discovery of smaller Veins, greater and more beneficial Mines may be hop'd for. *Ireland* has in many places such Towering Mountains and Rocks, as gives the strongest presumption of their having considerable Mines in them: But it is our misfortune, that either by the ignorance of the Possessors, want of capacity in the Undertakers, and

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Negligence or rather Roguery of the Miners and others employ'd in Sinking, Boring, or Driving, many attempts have prov'd unsuccessful, to the great discouragement of all future attempts.

I am therefore fully convinced, we shall never make any considerable benefit of our Mines, without altering our Laws which relate to them, and making them more extensive and beneficial to the Undertakers: For since in most places, Lands are in possession of Tenants for Life or Minors, who, by our Laws can't grant Leases of Mines above 31 Years; and those Gentlemen, whose Lands are not settled, very seldom grant a longer Term, and sometimes are unwilling upon Reasonable Terms to give even so long a time; I can by no means think that Incouragement adequate to the Risque they run; nor will any Persons of Knowledge, Experience or Fortune come into this Kingdom, to search for Mines upon such limited Leases as our Laws allow; and perhaps if they should come over, either upon account of disputed Titles, or the Extravagance of the Demands of those who' have the Title, or by unnecessary Delays, even such Leases cannot be easily procur'd upon Reasonable Terms.

I have therefore, to shew how the defect of our Mine-Laws may be supply'd, made some inquiry into the Laws in force in Mine Countrys, particularly *Germany, Hungary, and Poland*. And there, I find they are vastly different from ours; and calculated intirely with a view of giving Incouragement to those who' will adventure and discover Mines and Minerals. The Laws in *Darby* Shire are also upon a different foot from ours; but not quite so beneficial to the Discoverer, as those abroad. In these Countries there is no want of a Lease, when any Persons set about the finding of Mines; they only pay the Damage done to the Soil in the attempt; and if a Mine is discover'd, a Court is call'd, and the finder makes

makes a legal Proof of his being the Discoverer, and the Mine (as long as he continues Working that Vein) is assur'd to him in property, giving a fixt proportion to the Lord of the Soil as their Law directs. This must certainly be allow'd to be much more beneficial to the Publick and to the Undertaker than our limited Leases; and would be a sufficient Encouragement, either to bring over Persons of Experience and Judgment, to search for Mines in this Kingdom; or might put some of our own Gentlemen upon Travelling into the several Mine Countries abroad, with a view of improving themselves in the Knowledge of Mines, having a prospect of making their Fortunes by it upon their Return home.

FOR these Reasons I would humbly propose, that our Laws in relation to Mines and Minerals might be repeal'd, and a general Law made conformable to the Laws in force abroad in the Mine Countries; that any Person paying a Reasonable Sum for the Damage and Trespas done to the Soil, to be determin'd by a Jury, should have free liberty to bore, dig, sink, or otherwise search, for any Mine, Mineral or other Treasure, paying a proportion limited by Law, suppose $\frac{1}{16}$, to the Lord of the Soil: That before he began to search, if the Lord of the Soil were known, and there was no disputed Title to the Royalties, he should be oblig'd to make an offer to him, of going $\frac{1}{2}$ or any less share with him in the Expence and profit, besides the $\frac{1}{16}$ reserv'd as a Rent to the Lord of the Soil by Law; which share, if he agreed to, and, without delaying the Undertaker, immediately entered into Articles to fulfill such agreement, should be allow'd to him; if he did not, the whole Mine or Vein discover'd should be the Undertakers, paying the above mention'd proportion to the Lord of the Soil, until the Vein run out, or he discontinued the Work six Months; nor should he have any Title to sink in or damage any House, Yard,

Yard, Garden or Orchard. A proper Law, fram'd upon such a Foundation; would I hope give this Kingdom much greater benefit of its Mines in a few Years.

SINCE it can't be expected, I should mention all the minute Improvements *Ireland* is capable of; nor enter into a detail of the several advantages we should Reap by them: I shall only take Notice of a very great and beneficial Branch of Trade that is left open to us, which I reserv'd to the last; namely, our Fisheries. This in great Measure depends upon the increase of our People; Employment of our Poor; and the lowering of Interest; which of consequence makes Freight easy, and by that means enables Fisheries to be carry'd on to the advantage of the private Undertakers as well as the Publick.

WHEN the private Fisher can afford to sell his Fish so cheap, that the Merchant may have a reasonable profit by Exporting them to foreign Countries; the National advantage thence arising is so great and manifest, that I need not enlarge upon that head; all being clear gain, except Cask and Salt. If we consider the vast Number of Hands employ'd both by Sea and Land to advantage; with the Number of Ships, Busses and Boats; the increase of our Hempen Manufacture by furnishing Sail-Cloth, Cordage, Nets and Lines; the Number of Trades supported by furnishing and fitting out the ships employ'd in the Fishery, in bringing in Salt and Cask, and Exporting the Fish; as also by supplying the Sailors and Fishers with Provision, Apparel and other necessities: We must be convinced of the many and great advantages of Fisheries, when well manag'd.

If we consider that *Ireland*, next to *Britain*, is situated the most conveniently of any Nation in *Europe*, either for Cod, Ling, Hake, Herrings, or Pilchards, which abound upon our Coast or that of *Britain* adjoyning to us; as also for the Banks of

Newfoundland, or the Whale-Fishery on the Coast of *Greenland*, *Spitzberg*, or *Davys-Streights*: If we consider the Fishery further as a Branch of Trade *England* has left open for us, to increase our Shipping and Navigation, and to assist them in recovering so beneficial a Trade from Foreigners, since we lie more conveniently for it than Foreigners do: all these Things should oblige us to attempt an Undertaking, which would be so beneficial to us.

WE find, by the constant and diligent Application of the *Dutch* and other Nations, that it must be a very considerable and advantagious Trade to them. This the *Dutch* frequently call their Gold Mine, and remember constantly in their Prayers: And 'tis generally believed to be more considerable than the *East-India*, and most other Branches of their Trade join'd together. It is from hence plain, that it is practicable; and if we can once come, by lowering of Interest and Cheapness of Freight, to be upon a *Par* with them; we will exceed them, by our Situation, in all other Advantages. The only thing necessary to attempt the Herring Fishery with Success, would be such a Knowledge in the Manner of taking them, as to have them in as great Quantity as the *Dutch*; and in the Method of curing them, so as to save them as well, and to bring them as early to Market. None of these are impracticable. It will be allow'd, that we lie as conveniently to have Salt from *St. Ubes*, *France*, or *Britain*, as they do. Cask may be procur'd at reasonable Rates. To all Parts of *Europe* we have a shorter Run; except the *Baltick*, *Germany*, and *Flanders*: And even in the *Baltick* we might be as near the Market as they, if we fitted out Busses to fish in the Northern Isles of *Scotland* and *Sketland* as early in Summer as they do; for we would have all the *Scotch* Ports open to us which they want. As for Cod, Ling, and Hake; we might with proper Care out-do all
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but *Britain*, with whom we might share upon their and our own Coasts. And for the Whale-Fishery, we are nearer than either the *Dutch* or *Hamburgers*, had we once embark'd in it, and got expert Harpooniers. Of these Fisheries I will treat severally.

FIRST I will give an Account of the Herring-Fishery, the Way the Fish take in their Progress from Place to Place, how the *Dutch* proceed in taking them, and what Method we ought to take to procure the greatest Number in the best Season to answer foreign Markets: which I will do from the best Authority I could procure, and from my own Reasonings and Observations as well as those of others, with whom I have convers'd upon it.

WE find that all Fish in stormy Weather do leave the Lee-Shore upon which the Storms beat, and retire into deeper Water not so much disturb'd. Since Gregarious Fish, such as Herrings which swim in Sholes, are more liable to be disturb'd by a working Sea, than other Fish: it is highly rational from hence to conclude, that they generally retire into the Deeps of the Ocean, during the Winter, where they are free from the Disturbance of the Winter Storms. This is confirm'd by Experience, by the many Observations of their constant regular Retreat from the Shores of *Britain* and *Ireland* after spawning, and the regular annual Return of the immense Shole of Herrings to the *North-Western* Isles of *Scotland*, and the Isles of *Faro* and *Shetland*, where the *Dutch* attend their Motion in the Month of *June*.

WE find, from the Observations of Fishers, that *Salmon* constantly attempt to spawn in the Rivers, in which they were bred: and Fishers along our *Northern* Coast, upon taking them at Sea, can distinguish the different *Salmon* belonging to the several Rivers they spawn in, by their different Shape or Marks; such as those of the Rivers *Bush*, *Bann*, &c. It is from hence highly probable, that Herrings en-

deavour to spawn upon such Banks as they have been formerly bred in; unless driven thence by Storms, Frights, or other Disgusts, as some alledge (how well grounded, I won't pretend to dispute, nor can I readily believe) such as firing of Guns upon Engagements at Sea, which might occasion a Tremulation in the Water disagreeable to them: but why Thunder should not equally affect them, I can't pretend to tell; for the Effect to them in the Water is the same.

THAT they do spawn in Places where bred, I conclude also for this Reason; that when any remarkable Fishery of Herrings has been in any particular River or Place of spawning, in Loughs or Bays where there are proper Banks for them; for several Years afterwards no great Fishery has been known at that Place: the Mother-Fish having been in great Measure destroy'd; it requires some Years, in such Place, for the Spawn or Fry to increase to a sufficient Number to make a profitable Fishery.

I HAVE an Account also from Persons of Honour and Integrity, who may be depended upon for the Truth of the Fact; that in *Clyde*, where had been the best Fishery in the West of *Scotland*, about 40 Years ago they made a Wire in it with Hurdles where it was narrow, by which Means they contracted the Passage so much that at full Sea they stretch'd a Net from Side to Side in the Height of the fishing Season: The Herrings, in a Manner the whole Shole, had got within the Net before they fix'd it; and endeavouring to get out upon the Return of the Tide, being slopt by it, were all destroy'd, having stifled one another with their Pressure, and so were thrown upon the Shore several Foot thick; where having neither Salt nor Cask to cure and pack them in, they rotted, and they carry'd them out and soil'd their Ground with them. From that time, for many Years, they had no Fishery there: and even now it

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no way equals what it formerly was. The Inhabitants there said it was a Judgment upon them for the Destruction they made ; But it is highly agreeable to Nature if we suppose that Fish spawn where bred, most of the Mother-Fish being then destroy'd.

SINCE then there is the greatest Probability of meeting with the Herrings upon the Banks, and in the Bays and Rivers where they annually spawn ; and since the most rational Method of catching a great Quantity, is by discovering their several Haunts, and by following them, whilst they swim in Sholes to those Banks and spawning Places, before their Sholes are subdivided, when they are with more Difficulty met with: I will endeavour to shew the Course they generally take, from their first setting out in the Beginning of Summer, until they return to the *North-Western* Deeps in Winter, from whence again they annually set out upon their Migration.

THE *Dutch*, by an Experience of a long Series of Years, have found they are to be met with near *Brassa-sound* in *Shetland*, in the Beginning of *June*. There all their Busses assemble by the 22^d, and on the 24th, *N. S.* (which is the first Day they are allow'd to fish ; for before that time, they find by Experience the Herrings are not in their Prime) They from thence scatter over the Face of the Ocean, until they meet with the grand Shole ; which they afterwards seldom part with, while their Fishery lasts. The Shole at the *North* of *Scotland* divides ; one Part going along the *East* Coast, and the other along the *West*. That on the *East* has been generally accounted the largest Shole, from the numerous Banks in the *German* Sea, and on the Coast of *England* and *Holland*. These, by the time they reach *Yarmouth*, begin to spawn, and are past the Season for prime white Herrings ; being there chiefly us'd in making red Herring by being dry'd and smoak'd. When they

they have got the Length of the *Thames*, they are still more wasted, and only fit for the present Consumption in the *London Market*. They are yet worse by the time they reach *Calais* and *Dieppe*, being in *November* and *December*; from whence they go, if the Winds blow *Easterly*, through the Channel and so through *St. George's Channel*, or round *Ireland*, to the *North-Western Deeps*, to lye there during the stormy Season: whilst those which spawn sooner on the Sands near *Yarmouth* and *Lincoln*, &c retire *Northwards* before the *Easterly Storms* begin, and so regain the *Northern Deeps* before they are disturb'd by the then angry Element.

At the same time that the *Eastern Shole* goes into the *German Sea*; the *Western Shole* coasts along the *West Side* and *Western Isles* of *Scotland* or the *Hebrides*, and fills all the *Loughs*, *Bays*, and *Creeks* there with an innumerable Quantity of Fish. From thence they proceed more *Southerly*; and at the *North* of *Ireland* again subdivide, a very large Shole going *Easterly* betwixt *Cantyre* and *Fairhead* in *Ireland*, whilst a smaller Shole goes *Westward* to *Loughswilly*, *Killibegs*, and *Sligo*. The greater Shole, at the Entrance of the *Irish Sea*, subdivides as it goes *Southerly*; a great many going up *Clyde*. If the *Easterly Winds* prevail, sometimes the whole Shole coasts it up as high as *Air*; where at such a time they might take an immense Quantity, as well as in other Parts of *Clyde*. They thence proceed *Southerly* to the several Places of spawning on each Side of the *Irish Channel*; still subdividing and wasting the more *Southerly* they go; being generally all spent before they reach *Waterford* on the one Side, or *Devonshire* and *Cornwall* on the other Side of the Channel. And this is the Reason of the Difference of the Size and Price of the *Scotch* and *Waterford Herrings*: The one being taken in high Season; and the other, when too late. By the time they have reach'd

reach'd so far *Southward*; and have spawn'd, part of the *Eastern Shole* arrives from the *English Channel* and joins them: and as the Wind favours them, they either go round *Ireland*, or through the *Irish Channel* to the *Northern Deeps*. About *Christmas* 1728, above 1000 of them were taken by a Draught of a Seine, at *Isle Magee* in the *North* of *Ireland*, on their Return, being lank and spent: the others which spawn'd earlier, had before that time regain'd the *Lewes Isles*, and recover'd so much as in *December* to be in tolerable Season. Thus when the stormy Season begins, they retreat to the *Deeps*; and are ready in *April* and *May* to begin their annual Tour from the Isles of *Faro*, *Shetland*, and the *Northern Hebrides*.

NOTWITHSTANDING the general Opinion of the Greatness of the *Eastern Shole*: it is a dubious Point with me, whether the *Western* does not exceed, or at least equal, the *Eastern*; and that, for these Reasons. Since the Presumption is that the Numbers, upon their Division at the *North* of *Scotland*, which go to each Coast, are in Proportion to their spawning Places on each Side of *Britain*, which are the several Sands, Bays, and Inlets on the Coasts of *Britain* and *Ireland*, where the Storms least prevail: I am of Opinion, the *Western Shole* at least equals the *Eastern*. For tho' the Coasts of *Holland* and *Germany* abound with Banks, and therefore might be presum'd to have more spawning Places than the *Irish Channel*; yet they have not such great Numbers of Herrings as the Sands near *Yarmouth*, and the *East Coast* of *Britain*; because the *West Winds* blow longer and fiercer than the *Eastern*. It is plain, there are but few Banks or Inlets on the *Eastern Coast* of *Britain*, Northwards of *Flamborough-head* or *Sunderland*: for except the River of *Tay* and *Firth* of *Forth*, there are none considerable. The Banks to the *Southward* of *Sunderland* are those of the River *Humber*, those
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by *Lincolnshire*, and so on by *Yarmouth* to the River *Thames*, and *Dover*, with the several deeper Banks on the Coast of *Holland* and *Flanders* : For the Storms on the shallow Banks would disturb the Spawn, and consequently are not proper for them. There are besides these a few in the *English* Channel, from *Calais* to the Mouth of the *Seine*, and from *Dungeness* towards the Isle of *Wight*. It is probable, the Sands near the Mouths of the *Elbe* and *Weser* are not so proper for their Spawn as those of *Holland* : Because the Breadth of the *German* Sea there may make the Sea too turbulent. Now unless we suppose the *Doggerbank*, *Whitewater*, *Deepwater*, and *Wellbank*, which are situated in the Middle of the *German* Sea, to be all spawning Places for Herrings alone (which is no Way probable, since it is there the *Dutch* fish for Cod) it is certain the *Western* Shore exceeds the *Eastern*. Or if only those Places on the Banks, where the Water is less than 20 Fathoms, be proper for spawning on ; then they may be computed to be equal to each other : For I presume that there is a proper Depth, at which different Kinds of Fish choose to lay their Spawn, to be protected from the turbulency of the Waves in a Storm, and to enjoy the Warmth of the Sun in the Spring, which assists in hatching them : This we constantly observe in Pond-Fish, and we have the same Reason to conclude it of Sea-Fish. I will now consider the proper Places for spawning on the *West* Coast of *Britain*, and set them in Opposition to those on the *Eastern* Coast.

THE Herrings, desiring to keep in the quietest Waters, in their Passage to the *Irish* Channel crowd in between the *Lewes*, with the rest of that Chain of Islands, and the Coast of *Scotland*; and finding many noble Inlets and Bays, from *Sternorway* Southwards upon the *East* Side of these Islands, and all round the Isle of *Sky* ; make a considerable Halt there.

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In the beginning of the Summer, the greatest Part of the Shoal is to force its Way on both Sides of the Isle of *Sky*; where undoubtedly by a right Disposition of Busses and Boats, a great Number might be taken in their prime Season, and might be as early at Market as those the *Dutch* take near *Brassafound*, which they carry home to re-pack. When the Herrings have once push'd their Way to the Southwards of the *Ouist* Islands, they make a shorter Stay at *Mull*, *Isla*, *Jura*, and *Argyle-shire*, because more open to the *Western* Ocean, especially if the *Western* Winds prevail: tho' they generally look into each of the Bays there, as they go along. They from thence soon push their Way through the narrowest Passage between *Scotland* and *Ireland*, lying between the Mule of *Cantire* and *Fairforeland* or *Torhead* in *Ireland*; and being then arrived in a quieter Sea, leisurely subdivide, and go in their proper Season to their several spawning Places on each Side of the Channel, which I shall briefly mention, and so form an Idea of the Proportion of the two Shoals.

IN the *Fryth* of *Clyde* are the large Sands and noble Inlets of *Lough-fine*, *Lough-lung*, and the extended Sands for many Leagues from *Newport-Glasgow*, along the *Largs*, by *Saltcoats*, *Irwin*, and *Air*, as far almost as *Girvan*, some Leagues from Shore. There are also considerable Sands and Inlets on the *South* Coast of *Scotland*, by *Kirkcud-bright* and *Dumfries*, up the *Solway Frith*; the Sands to the *North-East* of Isle of *Man*, and so on to *Peel* of *Foudray*; those of *Lancaster*, *Preston*, *Liverpool*, and *Chester*; the Sands and Inlet at *Conway* and *Beaumaris*; the Coast of *Caernarvon*, and Harbour of *Milford*; and the *Severn* Sea as far as *Lands-end*. This is a vast Extent on the *West* Side of *Britain*.

ON the *Irish* Side are *Larne*, *Carrickfergus*, *Strangford*, *Carlingford*, the Sands by *Dundalk* and *Drogheda*, the Bay of *Dublin*, all the Grounds and Sands

from thence by *Wicklow* and *Wexford*, the River of *Waterford*, and so on to *Youghall* and *Cork*; for so far are Herrings taken. Besides these, there is a Shole which goes down the *West Side* of *Ireland*, by *Lough-swilly*, and so by *Killibegs* to *Sligo* and *Galway*; where they find better Shelter in the several Creeks and Inlets than on the *East Side* of the *German Sea*. Now if the many convenient Sands and Inlets on this Side of *Britain* be consider'd, and the few Mother-Fish destroy'd here be compar'd with the Numbers taken on the *East Coast* of *Britain*; it is highly probable, the *Western Shole* is at least as great as the *Eastern*.

THESE, according to the best Accounts I have been able to procure, are the annual Migrations of the several Sholes of Herrings; and their Proportions do probably correspond to the Size of the Banks they spawn upon. It is upon this general Plan, that the *Dutch* have form'd so wonderful and beneficial a Fishery; whereby they have a Magazine sufficient to supply all *Europe*. They don't, as we do, sit lazily down, and wait their coming to their Doors; by which Time they are generally spent, and too late for the Market, and the Shole so subdivided that it is difficult to find them, for our Fishers seldom go in quest of them, until they hear they are arrived at some Bay or Creek; and often by the time the Boats get to it, they have left that Place and are gone forward on their Course: for this Reason our Boats seldom find the Shole, and being small, dare not venture into the Channel after them, but wait until they are again got into some other Bay, by which Time the Season is lost; and if at any Time they are so lucky as to fall in with them, they have neither Salt nor Cask sufficient to cure and pack them.

THE *Dutch*, on the contrary having fitted out large Busses, from about 40 to 70 Tuns Burthen, fit to traverse the Seas, well mann'd with at least

20 Hands, provided with Salt and Cask sufficient for a Cargo, and having Ships daily arriving with more to carry off and re-pack their Herrings, lose no time in sending them early to Market. They assemble 1000, or sometimes near 2000 Buffes, under the Conduct of an Admiral-Fisher, who from long Experience knows the Way the Fish take according as the Winds and other Accidents influence them : And on the the 24th of *June N. S.* from *Brassafound* in *Shetland*, disperse their Fleet, like a Pack of Hounds in quest of a Hare, over the Face of the Deep ; and by that Means quickly fall in with the Shole, which they seldom or never forsake ; but shooting their Nets at different Depths and upon different Points, according to his Directions, which are guided by the Winds and Currents, seldom fail of making thrice their Loading of Fish in a Season. This is the Reason of the immense Benefit they make by their Herring Fishery. They are always employ'd for at least four Months in the Year ; take great Numbers in the prime Season ; cure them carefully and effectually ; and are the first at the Market. They begin on St. *John's* Day ; and from that time to St. *James's*, they fish from *Faro* and *Shetland* to *Buchaness* in *Scotland* ; from that time to the 14th of *September*, they fish from thence towards the *Deepwater* and *Doggerbank* ; from that time to St. *Katherine's* in *November*, in *Deepwater* towards *Loest* near to *Jarmuda*.

SINCE I have engag'd in this Account of the *Dutch* Fishery ; I shall, from some Writers of the best Credit in the last Century, take Notice of the Quantity of Herrings said to be vended by the *Dutch* in their time, and the Number of Ships, smaller Vessels, and Men employ'd in their several Fisheries ; which, if the Accounts were justly taken, were surprizingly great. This makes me imagine, that the *Englisk* Writers took their Numbers from the Ac-

counts of such Persons as were willing to induce the Crown to regain the Fisheries from the *Dutch*. I very much doubt, if the Quantity of Fish, or Number of Shipemploy'd, at this Time, be near so great; tho' I believe, even now, near 1000 Busses are employ'd.

It was in the 14th Century, *William Backelow* first found out the Way of curing Herring with Salt; since which Time they have been a very considerable Trade. Sir *William Monson* in his naval Tracts says, in his Time (before 1630) the *Dutch* vended in *Coningsberg, Melvin, Stetin* and *Dantzick*, from 30 to 40000 Last of Herrings, each Last being 12 Barrels; which, at 16 *l.* per Last, amounted in Value to,

from 480 to - - - - -	l. 640000
They vended to <i>Russia</i> 1500 Last, at } 18 <i>l.</i> per Last,	27000
At <i>Stade, Bremen, Hamburgh</i> , and } <i>Embsen</i> , 6000 Last, Value	100000
In other Parts of the <i>Sound</i> , the <i>Baltick</i> and <i>Norway</i> , 10000 Last, }	160000
In the <i>Rhine</i> and <i>Maez</i> 22000 Last, about	440000
In the <i>Spanish Netherlands</i> from 8 to } 9000 Last, about	160000.
At <i>Roan</i> 500 Last, Value	10000
Which, besides what was consum'd in } <i>Holland</i> , in all amounted to } 89000 Last, Value	l. 1537000
They carried also at that Time our } red Herrings, Cod, and Pilchards } to the <i>Streights</i> ; and returned } for them, Value	l. 621750

So far Sir *William Monson*.

John de Wit, in his Memoirs, written after the Middle of the last Century, says, the *Dutch* employ'd

ploy'd then 1000 Busses and 170 smaller Vessels, which fish'd for Herrings near the *Texel*. That these Busses, being equipp'd for three Voyages, cost above 10 Millions of Livres or 10000 Livres each, all Appurtenances included; which taking 40000 Tun of Fish, brought 8 Million of Livres every Year to *Holland*. This being their own Account, may be suppos'd to be much within the Truth; lest too great a Profit might have encourag'd Foreigners to have undertaken it.

Emanuel de Metern says that, in 1610, there went out in three Days 900 Sail from *Holland* towards the *East*, and 1500 Busses for the Herring Fishery.

Gerald Malines and *Sir Walter Rawleigh*, say, the *Dutch* vendend annually 300000 Tuns of Herring and other salted Fish, and at the same Time employ'd 12000 Men in the *Northern* and Whale Fishery. After *Sir Walter Rawleigh's* Enquiry by King *James's* Order in 1610; he says, they fish'd then in the *English* Seas with 3000 Vessels and 50000 Men: That there were 9000 other Vessels and Boats going and coming with Provisions, Salt, Cask, &c, going to the Market with the Fish, and making Returns: He computed 20 Busses employ'd 8000 Men, and that the *Dutch* had 20000 Vessels of all Sorts then at Sea. Upon the whole, he computed the Number of Ships and other Vessels employ'd by the *Dutch* in their Fisheries in the *British* Seas, were about 10000, and near 200000 Men employ'd in them: The Number is so great, as scarce to be believed.

Sir William Monson computes, that a Bus generally makes 3 Returns or about 100 Last of Herrings in a Season; which, at 10*l.* per Last, comes to 1000*l.*

A Buſs of 70 Tun computed then at - - -	l. 500	
100 Laſt of Caſk, at 18 s. <i>per</i> Laſt,	90	
30 Weigh of Salt, at 40 Buſhels each,	}	105
at 3 : 10 : 0,		
Beer for the Men, at a Gallon <i>per</i> Day,		16
Bread,		16
Butter, Cheeſe, and Billets for Firing,		20
Wages for 4 Months,		88
	Total	835

So that they gain'd, by his Computation, in 4 Months, a Buſs Value 500 l. and 165 l. in Specie. He allows a Buſhel of Salt to a Barrel of Fiſh, and a Mixture of White and Bay Salt to be better than white alone.

Is it not from hence highly rational to conclude, that if the ſame Care, Diligence, and Regulations were obſerved by us, a very beneficial Trade might be made by following the Herring Fiſhery? But ſince I propoſe to ſhew that we may ſtill exceed the Profit the *Dutch* make by their Buſſes, which they employ in the Herring Fiſhery alone, by employing them in fiſhing for white Fiſh, Cod, Ling, &c as well as in the Herring Fiſhery; I ſhall firſt take Notice of the Time and Places proper to meet with the white Fiſh in Quantities ſufficient to encourage us to join both Fiſheries.

ON the *East* Coaſt of *Britain*, the *Dutch*, it is ſaid, have had 700 Pinks and Well-Boats at one time fiſhing for Cod and Ling, from 60 to 100 Tun Burthen. When they light upon thoſe that follow the Herring, they have been known to take them as faſt as they could hale them in. A Fleet of Colliers ſailing by *Flamborough-Head*, fell in once with a Shoal of Herring follow'd by Cod; one of which with Boat-Hooks and ſuch Fiſh-Tackle as they had on Board, took ſo many that they ſold them, when they

they got to *London*, for almost as much Money as they got for their Cargo of Coals.

IN the *Irish* Channel, in *Clyde* near *Ailza*, and in the Bays in the *Western* Isles of *Scotland*, as also on the Banks which lie *Westward* of the *Lewes* Isles to the *North* of *Ireland*, and so *Westward* of *Killibegs*, *Sligo*, and *Galway* are Cod, Ling and Hake in great Number, all good in their Season; which when well fav'd, fell in foreign Markets at a very good Price. Hake, in Sir *William Monson's* Time, was a very good Commodity in *Biscay*; Buckorm or dry'd Whiting, in *Britany*; and Cod and Ling, every where. Hake is taken in the Deeps of *St. George's* Channel, from *Whitfontide* to *St. James's* Day. Cod is good upon the *English* Coast by *Lancaster*, even to *Midsummer*; upon the *North* of *Ireland*, from *December* to *March*. Ling are good whenever they can be caught; that is, most Part of the Year. But the greatest Quantity of the best Cod and Ling in *Europe*, is among the *Lewes* and *Western* Isles of *Scotland*, and upon the Banks to the *Westward* of them; which extend to *Killibegs* and *Sligo* in *Ireland*, and a great many Leagues to Sea *Westward*. It was there the great Fishery was, which supply'd *Europe* before the Discovery of *Newfoundland*. There the *French* and *Biscayners* supply'd themselves, and all the *Southern* and *Western* Coasts of *Europe* with Cod and Ling.

THESE Banks, where the choicest and best Cod and Ling were caught in the greatest Plenty from *February* to *June*, have not been fish'd upon for near 200 Years. Sir *William Monson* says, in his Time they had not been fish'd upon for about 80 Years. I take it to have been neglected, upon the Discovery of *Newfoundland*: especially when the *English* began to enquire into, and exert their Right in the *British* Seas.

By this Fishery an additional Advantage may accrue to us, which the *Dutch* have not. Our Busses might be fitted out, in the beginning of *Spring*, with all Materials; Nets, Hooks and Lines of all Kinds, for white Fish; and be employ'd from the middle of *February* to the middle of *May*; during which Time they may repair to the *Lewes*, and the Banks *South-westward* of them, where with Long-Lines, Hand-Lines, &c, they may perhaps make twice their Loading in those 3 Months; and they may run to *Lewes*, *Isla*, or *Killibegs*, in case stormy Weather beat them off the Banks, where they might also make an easy Purchase from the Natives of the Isles, who take many good Fish in their Harbours; the Natives of *Lewes* being expert Fishers; for they were taught by the *Dutch*, when at *Sternoway*; and would improve every Day, if we frequented their Coast, and they found a ready Demand for their Fish.

THE Profit made by this Cod-Fishery, before they begin to fish for Herrings, according to the Prices and Wages in Sir *William Monson's* Days, was by him stated thus.

A Pink of 40 Tuns, with Lines, Nets, &c.	l. 260
20 Last of Cask, at 18s. per Last,	l. 18
5 Weigh of Salt,	18
Provisions for 2 Months,	12
Wages,	20

68

Total l. 328

20 Last of barrell'd Cod, at 15l. per Last	l. 300 : 00
Deduct, to fit the Buss for Sea again,	68 : 10

Remains	231 : 10
from which taking the Charges as above	68 : 00

Remains 163 : 10

Which

WHICH is so much paid, in the Prime Cost of the Buss, before she begins the Herring-Fishery that Season. If they salt them in bulk, without Barrelling them, the Profit and Quantity will be still greater. This is upon supposition, they come off when ever Loaded, without waiting the whole Season.

AT the time the Cod-Fishery is over, the Nets and all Materials for the Herring-Fishery may be ready; and by the middle of *June*, they may repair to the Rendezvous at *Shetland*, and fall in with the *Shole*, as the *Dutch* do; and accompany the *Western* division, down the *West* side of *Scotland*, before they begin to subdivide in our Channel; by which means they may be caught in great Numbers, in their Prime Season, and be sent over early to Market. This seems to me to be a much more rational way of fishing for them, to make Profit both to the Fishers and Merchants, than to wait for them until they come to our Harbours, when they are subdivided: For besides the advantage of having them in large Quantities, early for the Market, and in Prime Season, the Merchants would then know with certainty where they could have a Cargo of Fish, would lay up Stores of Cask and Salt in proper places, and Freight would then be easier by having Ships constantly employ'd. We should also have a greater conveniency of Fishing and at less expence than the *Dutch*: For the half of our Fishery might be carry'd on by Wherrys and small Boats; and the *Highlanders* of the *Western* Isles, who live as hardily and poorly as the *Dutch*, would be entertain'd at low Wages.

THE Fishers employ'd aboard the Busses, in a few Years, would find out how long the Fish stay at each place on their passage, and how different Winds, Storms and Fish of prey occasion them to alter their Course; whether in Storms they retreat to the Deeps, or endeavour to gain the Weather Shore, according to different Winds and the strength of them; at what proper depths to shoot their Nets, whether

Q

near

near the Bottom or surface of the Sea. They would consequently know, what Quantity of Salt and Cask would be sufficient to be left in the several convenient Harbours nearest our Fishery, and at what time to lay them in. Then the Wherrys and small Boats, that would follow our Busses to the *Lewes* Isles, would, as our Busses found out and follow'd the Shore, accompany them: And as the Busses fish'd in the deep Water off the Isles; the other Boats would take all the Creeks and Inlets, into which the Shore went as they coasted along, and thus they might follow them into the *Irish* Channel, as long as the Fish were in Season and worth the taking.

By this means, our Fishers would be employ'd in the best Season; and not wait and dodge for them in our Harbours, as they now do, until the Fish in a manner leap into their Nets. They are at present Idle, the best part of the fishing Season; for as I observ'd, when the Fishers hear that the Herrings are in any Harbour, the Fish often have left it again before the Boats arrive from other places, and then they are at a loss, until they hear they are got into another Bay or Creek. This is what discourages the Poor Industrious Fishers, by losing and mispending their time, and prevents others from undertaking it.

THE benefit arising from such a Fishery as I here propose, in our Trade to *Norway* and the *Baltick*, is so obvious, that I need scarce mention it. We would not then be oblig'd to send ready Money for Timber or Naval Stores, nor have the *Danes* import them to us. Our Fright and Benefit out and home, by supplying them with Fish, would make Sailing so cheap, we would carry all in *British* and *Irish* Bottoms. We could for the same reason be the Granary and Magazine of *Europe*, as the *Dutch* now are: For it is by their Fish, they buy up Grain and Naval Stores in *Riga*, *Coningsberg*, *Dantzick* and other places within the Sound; and by having a full Freight

Freight out and home, they are able to undersell all others who deal in those Commodities. We should soon then be gainers by the carrying Trade. This would also give full Employment to our Poor, and add vastly to our Numbers; who would consequently take off our Provisions, and give further Employment to our Farmers in Tillage and other Improvements at home. The advantages are so many, it would be tedious setting them out in their full Light.

I will not propose a method here of packing and curing of Fish; being a stranger to the best way of preparing them for the Market, I believe there are many, both in *Britain* and *Ireland*, who understand it; if not, they may be easily inform'd in *Holland*. I will only observe, that one reason why *Dutch* Herring excell ours, is from their being in a manner kill'd with Salt as soon as caught; they being gutted as they are taken from the Net, and laid in Salt immediately without drying or being bruis'd.

I am convinced, that without some National Incouragement, at first it would be attended with loss, thro' the want of Experience in those who would undertake it. For which reason I would think it highly prudent, to give such Incouragement to any Persons who would undertake it, as I am inform'd was lately given in *Scotland*, by the Board for the Improvement of their Manufactures and Fishery; viz. a Premium to any who would fit out Busses to attempt it, and Employ them in it during the Fishing Season; suppose 2 or 300 *l.* for each Bus. The Funds we had lately appropriated to our inland Improvements, may convince us, that his Majesty would readily allow us to tax our Luxury, Dress and Equipage, and to appropriate it to our Fisheries and other Improvements; since it would redound so much to the joynt Benefit of *Britain* and *Ireland*, by increasing our Numbers and Wealth.

BUT should such a Tax be found inconvenient, which I dont think at all probable, it would be a generous undertaking in the Wealthy part of the Community, to apply a small part of their Income by a voluntary Subscription, for some Years, to open the way for so Beneficial a Trade by joyning, either in fitting out a few Busses and running the Risque which may attend such a Project until the method of Fishing is better known, or in giving it away in Premiums to those who would run the Risque. This would be much better than throwing it away in Luxury and Extravagance; and thus from a small beginning, we might enlarge our Fishery so as to be of the greatest Account and Benefit to the Kingdom.

BUT, if this Fishery be follow'd to purpose, it ought to be carry'd on by a regulated Company, into which any Persons might have Liberty to Subscribe any Sum they pleas'd, upon their submitting it to the Management of Directors or Trustees, to be chosen by themselves, for the Management of the Fishery.

THIS Board or Trust, according to the Stock or Fund deposited, would regulate the Number of Busses proper to be employ'd, the Quantity of Cask and Salt to be provided, as the Fishery increas'd; and how much of it should be lodg'd in the several stations and proper Harbours where the Fish usually resort. They ought also to have a Power to Regulate the Wherrys and Boats that attend the Busses, by obliging them to shoot their Nets in proper places, Creeks and Inlets, according to the Instructions and directions of the most expert Fishers in the Fleet, in order to their getting as many Fish as possible; which would enlarge the Quantity of Fish taken, and the Boats would have a certain and speedy Vent for their Fish. The company might, after saving and repacking their Fish, either send them to Market by freighting of Ships; or otherwise Merchants,

chants, by corresponding with them, would know what Number of Ships to send to each Port to carry away the Fish, when cur'd, to the several Countries where there was a demand for them, without losing the Season or missing their Freight.

IN hiring and agreeing with the Fishers in the Busses, it may be contriv'd so as to make it their Interest to be diligent, by agreeing with them, according to the Number of Fish they take, at so much *per* Last to each; or by giving them so much certain Wages, which should be moderate, and by giving among them a Premium upon every Last they took above a reasonable Quantity, which they should agree upon before they went to Sea. This would make them sharp and diligent to observe the Motions and Turns the Fish took in their Course, and the reasons of them, from Winds, Currents, Fish of prey and other accidents: By which means they would soon become expert Fishers and take great Quantities.

I am inform'd there is a Bank Southward from *Waterford*, of a considerable Length, upon which the *French* fish most part of the Summer, and take great Quantities of Cod and Ling, but greater of Mackarel; which they cure and vend in *France*. They fish there with Hand-lines, Long-lines, Trawls and other Nets, to considerable advantage. Since Mackarel may be cur'd and preserv'd for Sale; how do we know but a method may be found of saving flat Fish, to advantage, either by drying or salting: And so Holliburt, Turbet, Sole, &c. may become a vendible commodity abroad. For which reason I think Busses should be provided with every Machine fit for taking of Fish; with Baits, both Natural and Artificial, for all kinds of Fish; even Harpoons and Lines for taking of Whales, when they meet with them: That all improvements possible, in taking, saving and making profit upon all kinds of Fish, may be

be attempted and brought to perfection. They ought also to have deep Sea Lines, to find out new Banks and places of resort for Fish not yet discover'd; and, by that means, they might be better acquainted with the Soundings; which would be of use in Navigation.

As for Pilchards, the fishing for them in this Kingdom has not been attempted since the last Reduction of *Ireland*; tho', before that time, 700 Tun have been taken and vended in a Season. It is alledg'd, how true I won't say, that they were disgusted, upon an Engagement in *Bantry Bay*, at the time of our last Reduction: But I should rather attribute it to the Confusion of those times, which prevented the Fishers from following it, and afterwards, it is probable, they found it an easier way of living, to farm the Waste Lands at a low Rent.

THE method us'd in that Fishery is, to have Sights-men placed on the Headlands and Hills next the Sea, to direct the Fishers by signs where they see the Sholes of Pilchards; who by that means fall in among them and catch great Numbers of them. I am inform'd it is no difficult matter to be a good Sights-man; for the Fish are easily distinguish'd by a sudden reflection of Light from them as they move or alter their Course in the Sea: If so, I think, they might easily renew that Fishery without sending to *England* for Sights-men; and recover a Fishery which has been, and may again be, of considerable advantage to us.

If upon such a tryal there were none found, which I can't easily imagine, I should then conclude, that, upon abandoning their place of spawning, the Herrings or other Fish finding the Banks and Shallows unfrequented, had taken them up for to spawn upon, and afterwards the Pilchards could not regain their possession. For I am apt to believe, as the Herrings retire *North-westwardly*, so the Pilchards retire

retire *Westerly* to the Deeps of the Ocean near to the Bay of *Biscay*, to be near at hand in their Season to return to the *British* Channel; where they spawn, and so keep their Possession: Otherwise, I can't account for the regularity of the Pilchard's keeping the *South* Coast of *Devonshire* and *Cornwal*, when the Herrings always keep the *Severn* side of those Shires.

THE next and last Branch I propos'd taking notice of, is the *Northern* and Whale-Fishery; which, as our Numbers increase, may be follow'd to considerable advantage. The Train Oyl and Whale-bone in the common Whale is of general use and Consumption; and the Spermaceti and Ambergris in the Spermaceti Whales, are also of great value: So are also the Oyl and Skins of the Morfes or Sea Horses and their Teeth; the Horn of the Sea Unicorn; and the Skins and Oyl of Seals, of which there are great Numbers. Besides these, there are others tho' not equally valuable, considering the hazard in taking them, as the Scrag-Whale, the Bunch or Humpback-Whale, and the Fin-fish; as also Grampuses and Porpoises which are in great plenty in all the *Northern* and colder Seas, but especially, along the Ice upon the Coast of *Greenland*, *Spitzberg*, *Davy's Streights*, and so downwards as far as the Coasts of *New-England* and even to *Bermudas*: Each of which kinds frequents those places most where the greatest plenty of food is to be had and safety from the pursuit of their Enemies. The Whale kind go to the *Southern* Deeps, where they lie Warm, in the Winter; and so return to the Ice in the Summer, according to the observations of the Fishers in *New-England* (their Heads being all turn'd, at the latter end of the Year, to the *South-westward*; and in the beginning of the Summer, to the *North-Eastward*.)

THE common Whale feeds mostly upon Water Insects, a kind of Sea Snail, which are in Swarms upon the Coast of *Greenland*, *Spitzberg* and *Davy's Streights*,

Streights, near the Ice, where the Sea is from 80 to 120 fathom deep. The *Spermaceti* Whales feed upon the fry of Fish, Herrings, Sand-Eels, Needle-Fish &c. And are found in great Numbers upon the Coast of *New-England* and Banks to the *Eastward* of it, and also among the *Hebrides* or *Western Isles* of *Scotland* where Herring and their Fry resort.

A great many Ships are annually employ'd in the Whale Fishery, along the Coast of *Greenland*, at *Spitzberg* and in *Davy's Streights*. The *Dutch*, at a Medium of 46 Years, have employ'd annually 149½ Sail; as I have taken it from Mr. *Elkin's* View of the *Greenland Trade*, laid before the Court of Directors of the *South-Sea Company*; the *Hamburgers* 50; *Bremen* about 20; the *French*, *Spaniards* and *Berghen* in *Norway*, about 20; and the *South-Sea Company*, of late, 22: So that the *Greenland Fishery* employs annually above 260 Sail of Ships, from 150 to 500 Tuns Burthen; which, supposing them one with another 300 Tuns and 43 Men, which is the Compliment of Ships of that Burthen, having 6 Chaloups; and supposing only 250 Ships annually employ'd; there is 75000 Tun of Shipping employ'd in the *Northern Whale Fishery*, and in them 10750 able Seamen, and yet full employment for them all, and a sufficient Vent in *Europe* for a greater Quantity than is taken. The value of the Oyl and Fins of the Fish taken, at a Medium of 46 Years, by each Ship, is above 1600*l.* that is 400000*l.* among the whole Number, as I shall shew from Mr. *Elkins*; supposing that all far'd as well as the *Dutch* have done, who in 46 Years employ'd 6884 Ships, and in that time took 32908½ Whales, which was to each Ship, one with another, 4.78 Whales; the whole Number afforded 1250714 Puncheons of Blubber; which was, at a Medium, 38 to each Whale: They took in that time also at least 40 Millions weight of Whale Fins, which at a Medium would
be

be 1215½ Pounds to each Whale, which is but a moderate allowance; since a Whale, which yields 50 Puncheons of Blubber, will hold about 17 or 1800 weight of Fins.

Thus, at a Medium, each Ship getting 4. 78 Whales, and from them 181 Puncheons of Blubber (which is computed to lose ¼ when made into Oyl) at 4 Puncheons to the Tun, each Ship would make 36½ Tun of Neat fine Oyl, which, at 18 *l.* per Tun, would amount to 654 *l.* to each and 5810 futtle Pounds of Whale-bone, or 51 C. 3 *Qr.* 3 *Lb.* at 112 to the hundred, which, at 400 *l.* per Tun would be 1035 *l.* So that one with another, every Ship gain'd in Oyl and Fins 1689 *l.* If we allow 689 *l.* to be struck off for the Ware and Tare of the Ship, Wages, Provisions, and boyling of the Blubber &c; then the Undertakers would make 1000 *l.* neat profit upon each Ship; by which the *Dutch* are computed in those 46 Years to make at least 14 Millions sterling; and the other Nations that follow'd the Fishery, in proportion. Besides these, there are many employ'd in *America*, to the *Eastward* of *New-England* and *New-York*, where a great many of the *Spermaceti* Whales are kill'd, as well as of the common Whale; by which the Fishers there make considerable profit. Thus we see, tho' this is a dangerous and bold Navigation, what a great advantage has been made of it.

It may serve as a Foundation for further observations, to the improvement of the Fishery, to insert here the best account yet extant of the Natural History of Whales, for the greatest part taken from what Mr. *Dudley* of *New-England* has transmitted to the Royal society.

THE common *Greenland* Whale, out of which the Train Oyl and true Whale-bone is got, is of a dark marbled colour inclining to black, many of them quite black, without Scales, having a soft fine

smooth Skin; with only two Fins, one on each side, from 5 to 8 foot long, which they are not observ'd to use but in turning or stopping, unless when young (when they are carry'd by their Dam's upon the Fluke of their Tails, which lie *Horizontal*, and are from 3 to 4 fathoms broad; at which time, the young Whale clasps its Fins round the small of the Dam's Tail, to prevent it's falling off). These Whales, when at full growth, are from 60 to 70 foot long; they have a bunch, but no Fin, on their back; on each side of which is a spout hole, by which they throw out the Water which they receive in their Mouths either when they feed or play, and it seems to be of the same use to them as the Gills are to other Fish; where the Circulation of the blood is assisted by the Water and Air, which they receive in at their Mouths and emit at their Gills, which by reason of their floridness we may apprehend to be of the same Nature with our Lungs. The young Whale, when first brought forth, is about 20 foot long and worth little; but then the Dam is very fat! At a Year old, they are call'd short Heads, and will yield 50 Barrells of Oyl; then the Dam, by suckling it, is poor, and wont yield above 30 Barrells; At 2 Years old, they are call'd Stunts; being stunted after weaning, and wont yield above 28 Barrells: After that, they are call'd scull Fish; their Age being only guess'd at, by the length of the Bone in their Mouths.

THEY bring forth but one at a time; and but once in two Years, as the Fishers pretend. When they take Bull, as the Fishers term it, the female sinks her Tail and falls back, then the Bull glides over her and she clasps him with her Fins. His Penis is 6 foot long, and 7 or 8 inches Diameter at the Root, falling away to a point: And the female has Pudenda form'd as in land Animals. She has two Teats, of 6 or 8 inches long and 10 or 12 round, by
which

which she suckles the young; at which time she falls upon her back on the top of the Water. She is very careful of her young; often rising with it upon her Tail, to let it breath, when she does not breath herself; and if it falls off at any time, she swims under it and lets it again take hold. The Fishers are always cautious not to kill the Calf until they have dispatch'd the Dam, but only to fasten it: For she won't forsake it whilst there is any Life in it; nor will she strike with her Tail, unless she finds it is dead; and then she grows unruly and frequently does mischief.

THE common Whale has no Teeth; but the whole upper jaw and roof of the Mouth is all Whale-bone, lying in Ridges parrallel to each other, being about 500 in Number, from 6 to 18 foot long, according to the size of the Whale and place of the Mouth they ly in; all weighing together, from 12 to 1800 weight. The Fat or Blubber is generally 6 inches thick round his whole body; about his under Lip it is 2 or 3 foot thick; and his 2 Fins are also very Fat. A Whale generally yields from 40 to 50 Puncheons of Blubber; tho' some will yield from 80 to 100: And from *New-England* they say, some have yielded 130 Barrels of Oyl; of which near 20 Barrels was out of the Tongue.

THE Finback Whale is distinguish'd from the true Whale, by having a Fin, from 2½ foot to 4 foot long, upon his back. This Fish is more dangerous, when struck; and swims faster; yields little Oyl, and the Bone is short and knobby: So they don't often attempt to take him.

THE scrag Whale is near the kind of the Fin back: But instead of a Fin in the after part of the back, he has half a dozen knobbs like knuckles. He is nearest the right Whale, for Quantity of Oyl. His Bone is white and won't split.

THE Bunch or Hump-back Whale is distinguish'd from the true one, by having a Bunch like a plug where the Fin is on the Fin-back Whale. He yields but little Oyl: And the Bone is worth but little, tho' some what better than the Fin-back.

THE Cachelot or Spermaceti Whales are grey, having a bunch on their back, and no Fin. They are much of the same dimensions with the true Whale. The Head is large and has no Whale-bone in the Mouth, but white Ivory Teeth in each jaw 5 or 6 inches long, they being Fish of prey. One was caught in 1721; and before he was kill'd, he threw a Shark 12 foot long out of his Mouth, which it was suppos'd he had taken and had not swallow'd when he was struck. The spout holes of this Whale are near the Nose. It does not strike with the Tail, when wounded; but turns and fights with it's Mouth. The Train Oyl made of the Blubber is clearer and sweeter than that of the common Whale: And a Fish yields from 20 to 50 Barrels. The true Spermaceti Oyl lies in a great Trunk, about 4 or 5 foot deep and 10 or 12 long, near the whole length, breadth and depth of the head; suppos'd to be the Brain, being lodg'd in several Membranous Cells, not cover'd with a Bone, but with a Cartilaginous substance below the Skin, through which they make a hole and lade out the clear Oyl. The head and other Glandulous parts will also afford Oyl; but nothing so good as that lodg'd in the trunk, which alone yields from 10 to 20 Barrels. The Ambergris is only found in the Spermaceti Whale; and consists of Balls of various sizes, from about 3 to 12 inches Diameter, and from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 22 Pounds weight, lying loose in a large Oval Bladder 3 or 4 foot long and 2 or 3 deep and wide, like an Ox's Bladder but more acute, having a Duct which enters into and runs along the Penis, and at the other end another which comes from the kidneys. This bag or Bladder

der is almost full of a deep Orange-colour'd Liquor, not quite so thick as the Oyl; of the same scent with the Balls of Ambergris, which float in it, but rather stronger. The inside of the Bladder is deeply ting'd with the same colour; and also the Canal along the Penis. The Balls are made like an Onion, with one Coat upon another; and some of the outer Coats are frequently found, upon opening the Bag, as it were broke off from the inner part of the Ball, lying floating in the Liquor. These Balls are only found in old Whales, that are well grown, and as yet only in the Males: Because the Females are so shy, that the Relator says, he never saw nor heard of any that had been kill'd.

THE way they take out the Ambergris, is by fixing a Tackle to the Penis, and then cutting a hole round the Root of it through the Rim of the Belly until they come at the Bladder: They then tie up the further Duct, leading to the kidneys, pretty near the Bladder; and then cut it off: Upon which they draw out the Penis; and the Bladder, in which are the Balls, comes along with it out of the Body. The time of taking the common Whale near *New-England*, is from the beginning of *May* to the end of *June*, and of the *Spermaceti* Whale, from the beginning of *June* to the end of *August*.

THE Morfes or Sea Horses are as big as Oxen: Their Teeth are two foot long and as valuable as Ivory, 5 of their Bellies will give an Hoghead of Oil. *Elkins* says, a large one will yield a Puncheon of Blubber. Their Hides dress'd are twice as thick as Ox Hides, and are a good defence against Darts or Arrows. One Ship kill'd 900 of them; out of which was got 31 Tuns of Oil, and 2 Hogheads of Teeth.

THE Seals are from 5 to 8 Foot long. The fat of 12 of them, and so to 20 according to their bigness, will fill a Puncheon. Their Skins are valuable:
And

And a stroke of a staff upon their Nose, will make them fall.

THE Sea Unicorn is a Beautifull spotted Creature; having a Horn growing streight out of his upper jaw, from 3 to 12 foot long, as valuable as Ivory. A large one will yield about 2 Barrels of Blubber; the Train Oil of which, is whiter than that of the Whale.

THERE are also many white Bears found upon the Islands of Ice, as large as a Cow: Which are either kill'd with Lances or Muskets. Their Skins are valuable; and their Fat yields Oil, but in small Quantity.

THE Ships generally employ'd in this Fishery, are from 200 to 500 Tun; and accordingly have 3, 4, 5, 6 or 7 Chaloups. The Compliment of a Ship of 300 Tun and 6 Chaloups, are these.

- 1 Captain or Master,
- 1 Chief Harponier, who commands the whole Fishery,
- 5 other Harponiers,
- 6 Steers-Men,
- 6 Line-givers,
- 1 Surgeon,
- 1 Boatswain,
- 1 Carpenter,
- 2 Coopers,
- 16 Sailors,
- 2 or 3 Boys,
- 42 or 43 in all.

THE Voyage to *Greenland*, from *London*, is generally perform'd in 4 or 5 Weeks: And consequently in less, from *Ireland*. The Fishery begins in the Month of *May*, as soon as they dare enter the Ice; and continues till the middle of *August*. The Whales us'd to be found near *John Mayens Island* and old *Greenland*

Greenland early in the Summer; and as it advanced, they went towards *Spitzberg*, where they were found in great Numbers: But of late, they keep more among the Ice; and don't frequent *Spitzberg* so much as formerly; where one Ship has been known to take from 2 to 8 or 10 Whales in a Season. As they now generally carry on the Fishery, among the Ice upon the East Coast of *Greenland*, from 70 to 80 degrees Lat; when ever the Ships approach the Ice, they divide their Crew into 3 Watches of 8 Hours each, there being no Night, and fit out all their Chauloups with 6 Men each, viz a Harponier, a Line-giver, a Steers-Man and 3 others. The Ship's store for the Fishery should at least consist of 60 Lances, 6 Sea-horses Lances, 40 Harpoons, 10 long Harpoons with which they strike Whales under Water, 6 small Sea-horse Harpoons, and 30 Lines (the length of each, from 125 to 133 Fathom). When they go a hunting, they take in each Boat 2 or 3 Harpoons, 6 Lances, 3 Sea-horse Lances, and 5 or 6 Lines. They ought also to have a chopping Knife, Hatchet, Hammer and Drags for cutting up the Whale. All the Hands in the Boat row, 'till they come near the Whale; having their Lines properly coil'd and fasten'd to each other. The Harponier endeavours to strike as near the middle of his Body as possible: For his head is invulnerable; and near the Tail is dangerous: The Skin is also toughest there; and the Harpoon is not so apt to plow out and lose its hold, as near the Tail: The skill of the Steers-Man is to keep the head of the Boat to the Whale, and to avoid the stroke of the Tail. The best time to strike him, is when he spouts Water, which he does with great violence and noise. When he is struck, he immediately plunges under Water with great swiftness, and carries the Line with him. The other Boats must endeavour to Row up and furnish more Lines: For they often run off many hundred

hundred fathom, before he rises to take breath. If he runs under the Ice, they must hale in as much of the Line as they can: And if the Harpoon don't come out, at one or two pulls, they must cut it off and lose it. When he rises; they Row up to him and strike him again; at which time he will again shoot away under Water, but will not carry above 1 or 2 Lines until he again rise to Breath. When he rises the second time; they close in with him and attack him with their Lances, taking care to keep from his Tail. When the Lances enter his Body, he begins to spout blood; by which they know he is mortally wounded; and soon after he Expires. They then cut off the Fluke of his Tail, tie a Rope to the smaller part of it, and drag him in Triumph to the Ship. Then they cut of his Blubber in large pieces; which afterwards, on board, is cut so small, as to run into the Bunges of the Hogheads in the Hold, by a Sail Cloth Pipe. The Men who cut it, have Ice Spurs fasten'd to their Shoes, to avoid slipping off the Whale. So having turn'd the Whale, and cut off the Blubber from all sides, as also the Whale-bone from the Mouth; they let it go for the use of the Fowl without heeding it any farther. I am surpriz'd, they don't open the head: Perhaps something might be found of use in it, as well as in the head of the Spermaceti Whale; since the head is almost as big as the Body and it may be suppos'd to have a large Brain, which would yield good Oil. When they have finish'd cutting up the Whale; they go a hunting for more. To make the Crew more alert their Wages are generally paid in proportion to the Fish they kill, giving them their several proportions in every Puncheon of Blubber or Oyl; and if any Man discovers a dead Whale floating on the Sea, he has $\frac{1}{2}$ Guinea or Ducat given him as a Premium; to make them look out sharp.

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THE Commanders ought to be Men of Experience, and ready acute Understandings, to know where to enter the Ice, and where they may reasonably expect to meet with most Whales; how to avoid the Ice, and prevent themselves from being inclos'd in it; and what Islands it is proper to fasten their Ships to, upon Occasion, by their Nose-Hooks, and Hawfers, which are made on Purpose for it: This they do by picking a Hole in the solid Ice, where they fix their Hooks, and anchor as well as in a sandy Bay.

I HAVE thus endeavour'd to shew, that from the Fisheries alone, we have a large Field open for the Employment of our Poor, not only by making them Fishers and Seamen, but by finding them Work at Home, in supplying the Hands employ'd in the Fisheries, with the Materials of Hemp and Flax, and with Provisions and other Things necessary for their Use. This I have done with as much Brevity as is consistant with making the several Advantages appear in a clear Light; and shall now leave it to the Consideration of all that have the Interest of *Britain* and *Ireland* at Heart, whether we ought not, by proper Encouragements, to influence as many, as we can, to undertake some of the Fisheries, if not all of them.

WHAT I think most material, which I have not yet touch'd upon, are the Difficulties we lie under in our Plantation Trade. That Part, which related to our not importing non-enumerated Goods from thence, the *British* Legislature have in their great Wisdom taken away: in which they have done a particular Favour to us, for which we should be grateful. And as they will find that this Favour to us, will add to the Numbers, and give more Employment to our Colonies, and consequently increase the Power and Wealth of *Britain*, by employing more Hands at Home in furnishing the growing Numbers

in our Colonies with more Manufactures, and other Necessaries which they will want from them: I am hopeful, that finding themselves Gainers by this kind Step they have taken towards us, they will find it their Interest to allow us to import even some of the enumerated Goods, particularly Sugars and Molasses, for which I will offer some Reasons, and consider the remaining Difficulties upon our Plantation Trade.

By the Acts of the 12th and 22d and 23d of King *Charles* the 2d, all Plantation Goods there enumerated, viz. Cotton-Wool, Fustick, or other Dying-Wood, Ginger, Indico's, Sugars, and Tobacco, to which Molasses, and Rice were afterwards added, were to be brought to *Britain* only, or to some other *British* Plantation: and Bond was to be given by all Ships going to the Plantations, to bring their Cargo only to *Britain*; the Word *Ireland*, by the 22d and 23d of *Charles* the 2d, being to be left out of these Bonds. And tho', by the Act of the 25th of *Charles* the 2d, Plantation Goods might by shipp'd from one Plantation to another, upon Payment of a Duty there, and upon giving Bond to carry them to the Plantation they were bound for; yet by the Construction of the *English* Commissioners of the Revenue, *Ireland*, tho' the first and most antient Plantation and Colony of *Britain*, was not allow'd to be included in that Act, by saying it was only intended between Plantation and Plantation in *America*. By the 7th and 8th of King *William* the 3d, the Plantation enumerated Goods could not be landed in *Ireland*, unless first enter'd and landed in *Britain*. This Difficulty, which our Plantation-Trade yet lies under, I am hopeful may be in Part removed by the *British* Legislature, upon laying it in a true and full Light before them: Since I think it may be made fully appear, to be a great Prejudice to the Trade of *Britain*; and that it prevents the Increase
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of our Colonies; and, by making these Plantation Goods dearer to us by the Increase of Freight, it also prevents us from having Returns to give to *England* for what Goods we would otherwise take from them, and obliges us to send our Money to foreign Nations for some of those Goods which we might otherwise have from the *British* Plantations.

It is highly reasonable, that *Britain* should confine the Plantation-Trade to her self, exclusive of Foreigners. The Protection she has always afforded the Plantations, from their Infancy and first Settlement, gives her the justest Claim to it; as well as their having been peopled from *Britain*. But how far that Reason will hold against us in *Ireland*, who are under the same Government, and who have always (to the utmost of our Abilities) assisted *Britain* in her foreign Wars and peopling her Colonies; and what bad Effect it would have, to enlarge the *British* Foundation so far as to admit *Ireland* into this Trade, and still keep the Restriction as to Foreigners; I can't easily find out: Since I dare now venture to affirm, that *Ireland* is nearly in the Possession of Proprietors of *British* Extraction; and most of these, Protestants. If we were admitted; all we could gain by it, would be for our Home Consumption: For by limiting of the Drawbacks, our foreign Sale of Plantation enumerated Goods might be prevented. I shall therefore beg leave to set the Plantation Trade, as it regards *Ireland*, in a somewhat clearer Light; and see whether *Britain* would not be a much greater Gainer, by easing us and opening that Trade to us, than they are now by the Restrictions we are laid under.

THE Advantages, I conceive, that *Britain* aims at, are; that the Colonies in *America* shall be kept in a necessary Dependence upon *Britain*; that they shall be supply'd with all Things they want from *Britain*; and that, by having the sole Returns from
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their Plantations, *Britain* might become the Magazine of all the *West-India* Commodities now rais'd in the *British* Islands and Colonies on the Continent of *America*.

I SHALL beg Leave to consider, how far these Ends are answer'd by the Difficulties we are under, at present, of entering and landing all Plantation enumerated Goods first in *Britain*.

IT is evident ; that by easing our Trade and removing this Difficulty, as we are all under one Government, the Dependance of the Colonies upon *Britain* is no more alter'd than at present by their mutual Trade with one another ; and *Ireland*, in that Respect, cannot be call'd foreign to *Britain*.

NOR can the Difficulty, we lie under in our Plantation Trade, be an Increase to the Sale of the *British* Manufactures in their *American* Colonies ; but the contrary : for every Thing that lessens the Demand we have for their Produce, by making it dearer to us, is a straitning of the Colonies and a Check to their Increase ; for by this Means, instead of trading with them, we go to foreign Kingdoms for the same kind of Goods we could have from them, and supply them with the Money and Commodities we would otherwise give to the Colonies or to *England*, in return for the Goods we had from them. As for Instance ; if we had Rum and Sugars, at the cheapest Hand, from the Plantations ; we should be encourag'd to distil Spirits from Sugar at Home, and to make Use of Rum instead of *French* Brandy, and also to meliorate some of our Home-made Liquors, by which means we would lessen our Demand for *French* Wine and Brandy. This would increase our Demand for Sugars and Rum ; and the Colonies would reap great part of the Benefit, which *France* and the *French* Islands reap now by our Trade.

WE have had of late, at a Medium, annually upwards of 145000*l.* Value from *France* in Wine, Brandy,

dy, and Sugar. Would it not then be a great Advantage to *Britain* and the Colonies, to have the greatest part of that Sum given to the *British* Sugar Islands for Rum and Sugars? for by that Means, the Planters would increase both in Numbers and Wealth, and take off an equal Value of *British* Manufactures: But at present, *France* and its Islands having the Benefit of our Trade, *Britain* not only loses the Sale of so many of her Goods and Manufactures that would attend the Increase of her Colonies; but this Loss is doubled by the Increase of the *French* Colonies (arising from our being oblig'd to give *France* our Money, and the *French* Sugar Islands, Provisions cheap: by which Means they are enabled to undersell our Planters; and will soon furnish more of the Southern Parts of *Europe* with Sugars, than *Britain* can). By this Means *Britain* loses the Benefit they aim at, of being the Staple and Magazine for *West-India* Commodities.

THE *French* have our *Irish* Provisions very cheap; because we have no other Market sufficient to take off the Quantity we export; and their Ships going light to *America*, can carry it there for a small Freight. By this Means their Colonies increase, and take off many more of their Manufactures. This also distresses *Britain* in the Sale of her Woollens, by the Encouragement *France* gives to run the Wool to that Kingdom: Whereas Part of these Inconveniences would be remov'd, if the Difficulties upon our Plantation Trade were taken off, particularly in respect to Sugars and Molasses: for, all that *Britain* gains by our entering and landing them in *Britain*, is the trifling Duty of 8 *d.* per 100 upon the Sugars and 6 *s.* 4 *d.* per Tun upon Molasses, which remains upon re-exporting them to *Ireland* or Abroad; but the *Irish* Merchant is at great Expence by loss of Time, and Increase of Freight, as well by the Length of the Time, as by the greater Risque in going for
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Britain and returning, after they have been safe at their Port in *Ireland*. This makes it easier for us to buy Sugars in *France*, and pay foreign Duty; than to bring Sugars from our own Islands.

I THINK also, Sugars should be allow'd to be refin'd in the Sugar Islands: for since few Hands in *Britain* are employ'd in refining them; and the Expence of Freight is much increas'd, not only by bringing them over Coarse, but by bringing them over first to *Britain*; by which Means the *French*, who refine theirs, and carry them directly into the Straits, must necessarily undersell *Britain*, and carry away the Sugar Trade. It may therefore be concluded; that the only likely Way *Britain* has to retrieve its foreign Sugar Trade, is by opening it not only to *Ireland* but allowing our Colonies to refine them, and *British* Merchants in *British* Ships to carry them directly from our Islands into the Straits, as they are now allow'd to do with Rice.

THE Difficulty now attending the taking of Horses from *Ireland* to *Britain*, seems to me to be prejudicial to both; and no Benefit to His Majesty's Revenue in *Britain*, altho' each Horse pays 1 l. 8 s. 6 d. Duty to the Crown. If this Duty were designed to support the Government, for so much as it yields; it is demonstrable the Crown loses by the Tax, and would gain much more, if the Duty were lessen'd to 5 s. For then 40 Horses would pay Duty, for one which now pays; and the Crown would get 10 l. instead of 1 l. 8 s. 6 d. Then no Person would risque a Horse, for the Value of a Crown; but every Horse would pay Duty. If it is design'd as a Prohibition, in order to promote Horse-breeding in *Britain*; the Policy is wrong, and both North and South *Britain* undoubtedly lose by it. I believe most People are convinc'd, that for some Years there has been a great Demand in *France* for Hunters and Saddle-Horses from *Britain*; and that great Prices have been given
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in *England* for them, from 20 to 40 and 60 Pistoles. *England* is not able to supply them or answer their Demand, without having Horses of less Value for the Road, and other common Occasions in the Country. These they are supply'd with from *Scotland*; but *Scotland* is not able to answer their Demand, without calling in *Ireland* to her Assistance. So that it is plain; for every Horse of 5 l. or 8 l. Value they get from *Ireland*, they sell a Horse to *France* from 20 to 60 Pistoles, which they could not afford to do, if they had not a Supply from hence. So that the Difference of the Price, between the Horses bought in *Ireland* and those sold to *France*, is all clear gain to *Britain*; of which Gain the *Scotch* Horse Jockeys have their Share, by the Difference of the Price in *Ireland* and what they sell them for in *England*. Since then it is demonstrable, that *Britain* would gain by an open Trade, and that the Crown at present has not so much Duty as they would then have if it were reduced to 5 s: I am perswaded, the *British* Legislature, upon a proper Representation of it, would lower the Duty and allow of a free honest Trade: And by that means, His Majesty, to the Advantage of the Publick, would gain in His Revenue what is generally now lost to the Kingdom by the Number of Boats, Horses and Men, which are wreck'd, by carrying off Horses clandestinely from hence to *Scotland* (being frequently overtaken by Storms; and they will not put into any Port, least they lose their Horses or pay the Duty; so they run all Risques).

THERE is another Inconvenience *Ireland* lies under, which I think is prejudicial to both Kingdoms: I mean the Want of a free Importation of black Cattle into *Britain*. It is the Interest of all Nations to make the greatest Profit they can, of their Lands, when it does not prejudice the manufacturing part of the Kingdom, by too much raising the Primums
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of Manufactures, or too much raising the price of Provisions : Both of these ought to be regulated by their Prices in neighbouring Manufacturing Countries ; who otherwise, by having the Labour and Primums cheaper, must carry away the Sale in foreign Markets. If this be allow'd to be true ; then whatever will keep down the Price of Flesh, Tallow, Hides &c. to a middle Price, and at the same time procure to the greatest Number of the Farmers or Graziers the same Price for their Grass, must necessarily be advantagious to a trading and Manufacturing Country: And these ends may be obtain'd, in some Measure, by the exporting of *Irish* Cattle to *Britain*, to the good of both Nations.

I believe it will readily be allow'd, that feeding Countries, or those which fatten Cattle, have vastly the advantage of breeding Countries. Mountainy or Hilly Countries not easily improv'd, and which naturally don't throw up much Grass, are not proper for feeding Countries, but are very proper for breeding Countries and rearing of Cattle: These being cheaper than the rich fatting Lands, the dairy Men can afford to sell young Cattle from thence to the Farmers of rich Lands cheaper than if both attempted to rear and fatten ; for the high light Grounds can rear many more in proportion than they can fatten, and for that reason can afford to sell them cheaper to the feeding Countries and yet make considerably more of their Lands.

ENGLAND, as it is now Circumstanc'd, can only have such a proportion of feeding Land as there are Countries in *Britain* which breed: This obliges some part of *England*, very capable of feeding Cattle, to be breeding Countries; since they cannot have enough from the Mountainy parts of *England*, *Wales* and *Scotland*, to supply them with young cattle to feed: This consequently raises the price of young Cattle too much upon those who feed and fat them ; and
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this again obliges those who fat them, to sell them at a much dearer Price to the Butcher, which raises the Price of Beef, Tallow and Hides too much upon the Merchant and Manufacturer.

SHOULD *Ireland* then be admitted to be a breeding Country for *England*; and at the same time be allow'd to slaughter and sell abroad according as Markets answer'd; both *Britain* and *Ireland* would reap the benefit, and only foreign Nations would pay for it. For first; many of the Lands in *England*, now employ'd in breeding, would be turn'd into feeding Countries, by having a new Market open'd to them to supply them with young Cattle; which, in proportion to what *Ireland* could afford, would increase the feeding Countries in *England*, and yet prejudice the breeding Countries no more than what is necessary for the benefit of Trade and Manufactures by keeping Beef &c down to a reasonable Price. Tho' many Lands were added to the feeding Countries, the Prices of young Cattle would very little abate, whilst *Ireland* had free Exportation abroad for their Beef, &c; For, by opening a new Market from *Ireland* to *Britain*, the Quantity sent to *France*, *Holland* &c would abate, and *France*, wanting the Quantity of Beef it usually took for its Sugar-Islands, would naturally raise the Price, which now by being glutted they beat down upon us; and this consequently would raise the Price of Cattle in *Ireland*, and prevent us from throwing in so many young Cattle into *Britain* as to lower the Price upon the Breeders there any more than is reasonable for the good of Trade. So that the Breeders in *Britain* could not suffer, unless our Ports were shut up from exporting it slaughter'd; which no Wise Man would think of, since it would be a vast prejudice to both Nations. Thus, I think, it is plain; by opening our export to *Britain* and continuing it open to foreign Countries, *Ireland* would become with ad-

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vantage to both, a breeding Country to *England*; and yet, by the Price of our Beef rising abroad, we should gain in proportion more by our foreign Trade, than we now do by glutting the foreign Market.

I shall not take up the Readers time, or tire his Patience any longer, in being more particular in any Observations on the Improvement of *Ireland*. My whole design, in this Tract, has been to give a true state of the Kingdom; and to lay down some hints, that may put us upon thinking what may be done for the Improvement and good of our Country: And to endeavour to rectify the Mistakes many in *Britain* have fallen into, by reason of a prevailing opinion, that the Neighbour-hood, Trade and Prosperity of *Ireland* are Detrimental to their Wealth and Commerce; and that we are their Rivals in Trade, which we can never be, whilst under their Government, when all the Wealth we gain, by the surplus of our Industry, centers with them: For its plain, whatever we gain by our Trade, is only what foreigners must have had from them, in case *Ireland* were not in being; of which no part would again return to *Britain*, as it now does from *Ireland* by its being a part of the *British* Empire. I would willingly hope therefore, that from a just Representation and view of our Trade, they will see that our Prosperity and Wealth contribute vastly to the Prosperity and welfare of *Britain*; and that as long as a Harmony is promoted between us, our mutual happiness and riches will increase; and what ever we do in promoting each others welfare, contributes in a great degree to the prosperity of both.

IN this Complicated subject, tho' I have acted with the greatest caution, according to the best of my Judgment and Capacity; yet I am sensible many things, I have here advanced, may be liable to Cavils and Objections from Persons of different ways of thinking,

thinking. I therefore once again beg that the Reader may throw a Veil over what ever faults I may have committed in this Essay, and accept of my Intention and Inclination to do my Country service: And instead of condemning me, where amiss, that he may assist in altering and amending it: That we may all joyn, hand in hand, in promoting the welfare and happiness of his Majesty and the Peace and prosperity of all under his Government.



F I N I S.



ERRATA in the first Part.

PAGE the 1st, Line 12th, for Munity read Community. P. 5th, L. 2d, under Ballance for 62274 R. 63274 P. 8th, L. 23d, for 229784. 2. 9 R. 229785. 2. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$. P. 9th, L. 6th and 7th, for folling R. following. P. 17th, L. 13th, for 126752. 17. 1 R. 126765. 7. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. L. 14th, for 623777. 3: 9 R. 623789. 13. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$. P. 22d, L. 4th, dele shall. P. 23d, L. 31st, for 126752. 17. 1 R. 126765. 7. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. P. 28th, L. 2d, for Agriculuture R. Agriculture. P. 39th, L. 5th, R. Glass-cases at 1 l. 10. In the 1st, L. R. 3. l. per Pound. P. 43d, L. 24th, for Reducable R. Reduceable. P. 54th, L. 21st, for of R. or. P. 56th, L. 5th, for Suggars R. Sugars. P. 59th, L. 1st, for whieh R. which. P. 62d, L. 10th, for thence R. hence. P. 78th, L. 17th, for finner R. finer.

ERRATA in the second Part.

PAGE 8th, Line 12th, for 8510 read 8520. L. 26th, for 8800. R. 8900. L. 37th, for 382 846 R. 382946. P. 11th, L. 4th, same R. some. P. 14th, L. 18th, for Perhpas R. Perhaps. L. 23d, for Devenant R. Davenant. L. 24th, for Middelfsex R. Middlesex. P. 16th, L. 25th, for Inlergment R. Inlargement. P. 18th, L. 23 for forreign R. foreign. L. 34th, for æconomy R. œconomy. P. 19th, L. 36th, for forreign R. foreign. P. 20th, L. 18th, for forreigners R. foreigners. L. 32d, for æconomy R. œconomy. P. 21st, L. 5th, for posses'd R. possess'd. L. 25th, for Manufactures R. Manufacturers. P. 22d, L. 29th, for æconomy R. œconomy. P. 26th, L. 5th, for æconomists R. œconomists. P. 30th, L. 16th, for forreign R. foreign. P. 31st, L. 32d, for æconomy R. œconomy. P. 48. L. 22d, for æconomy R. œconomy. P. 48 L. 22d, for inclin'd send R. inclin'd to send. P. 49th, L. 9th, after diminish'd add. [,] P. 51 L. 14th, for fee-farms R. fee-farm P. 64th, L. 20th, after word exporter, dele, to. P. 74 L. 31st, for Cotten R. Cotton. P. 75 L. 17th, for Manufactures R. Manufacture. P. 88th, L. 18th, for un R. under. P. 122d, L. 31st, for fright R. freight.